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THE RAILWAY PROBLEM.

CONCESSIONS RETAINED.

The anxieties of the past fortnight regarding the concessions granted to theatrical companies and music hall artistes are now at an end, the efforts of those who were working in the interests of both professions having been crowned with success. With the aid of much tact and not a little diplomacy, the railway executive have been induced to continue the three-quarter reduction to theatrical companies of not less than ten, and to parties of variety artistes of not less than five, though, of course, the 50 per cent. increase of fares will have to be met just as in the case of the general public.

The credit of obtaining this benefit for the artistes belongs in a great measure to Mr. Douglas Stuart (in whose hands Mr. Bransby Williams, the president, and the committee of the M.H.A.R.A. left the entire negotiations with the Board of Trade and the railways), and who has been working indefatigably in many directions, both officially and privately, to attain the end sought for. He has received valuable help and advice particularly from Mr. Oswald Stoll, to whom the profession should be very grateful; also from Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. Alfred Butt, and Mr. Walter de Frece and others, whose names cannot be mentioned. We congratulate all concerned on the successful result of the representations made, which have been carried through without the need of any public deputation.

NEW RAILWAY REGULATIONS NOW IN FORCE.

The position of variety artistes is thus summarised in a circular issued by the committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association:—

FARES.

The ordinary fare will be increased by half, i.e., a £1 fare will become 30s., but members of the Association on parties of five or more will still get the concession of three-quarter fare on the higher scale; where the artiste paid 15s. he will now pay 22s. 6d., viz., three-quarters of 30s. instead of three-quarters of £1.

LUGGAGE

First Class.—Two cwt. of luggage will be allowed free to each passenger.

Third Class.—One cwt. of luggage will be allowed free to each passenger.

Note.—Everything will be weighed, and not more than 112 lbs. will be conveyed by the train by which the passenger travels, whether it is in the van or taken in the compartment.

No piece of luggage weighing over 112 lbs. will be conveyed at the free rate as above, but will have to be taken to the parcels office and despatched at parcels rate.

No further amount of luggage upon any consideration, even on excess payment, may be taken by the passenger on the train by which he is travelling. But he will be allowed to go to the parcel office and send luggage at parcels rate of about 1d. a lb., such luggage to be conveyed by first passenger train if possible, but no time of despatch guaranteed.

The above arrangement is granted upon the condition that the passengers agree to help in the transporting of all luggage to and from the trains, or to the parcels offices, and render all assistance in their power to the porters on duty.

TRUCKS.

A free truck will still be allowed to artistes when travelling in parties of ten or more. Other trucks can be obtained, when possible, at 6d. per mile, but in no case can trucks be guaranteed.

Artistes are particularly cautioned that the above regulations, being approved and ordered by the Government, will be absolutely and rigidly adhered to by all the railway companies.

THEATRICAL COMPANIES.

Identical regulations will apply to theatrical companies on the road, with the exception that the three-quarter concession is given to parties of ten as heretofore. The free truck concession remains as before, no alteration having been made in the terms of conveyance. The truck, not more than 21 feet in length, is given for a party of ten adults (during the war) free of charge. Two trucks are given for thirty-four adults.

LUGGAGE IN GUARD'S VAN.

A difference in the amount of free luggage to passengers will be noted, 2 cwt. instead of 3 cwt. being allowed to first-class passengers, and 1 cwt. instead of 1½ cwt. to third-class passengers. This will include the baggage carried with the artiste himself in this compartment, as well as that deposited in the luggage van.

If the passenger wishes to have conveyed luggage in excess of the weight mentioned above he must take the excess weight to the parcel office and book it in the ordinary way, paying the full parcel rate for conveyance. If the luggage tendered at the parcel office exceed 112 lbs. in weight for a single package he must, in addition, arrange to load the package or packages into the train at the starting station and unload them at the destination station. Conveyance of scenery and luggage cannot be guaranteed by any particular service.

Artistes will be well advised to start as early as possible on their travels, even on Saturday nights, in order to ensure getting to their destination in good time.

NOTICE TO RAILWAY COMPANIES.

A timely reminder may here be added of the necessity of companies giving ample notice to the railway authorities of their intention to travel. It is important that managers should advise the railway company on the Monday of the journey they propose to make on the following Sunday.

All canvassing and the looking up of business by railway companies' servants has practically ceased in the provinces as well as London, and it is essential that managers should post details of their forward dates, and not drift along towards the end of the week before letting the railway authorities know where they intend to travel on the following Sunday.

With the very much restricted train service and arrangements that are coming into operation it will be more difficult than ever to deal with companies whose journeys are only notified at the last minute, and will in some cases probably lead to considerable trouble to the companies themselves.

THE PROPOSED DEPUTATION.

The settlement of the question has been arrived at without the deputation to the Board of Trade which was contemplated. Requests to Sir Albert Stanley to receive a deputation culminated in the following letter sent on Dec. 29 to the secretary of the M.H.A.R.A.:—

"Board of Trade, Whitehall-gardens, S.W.
"Dec. 29, 1916.

"Dear Sir,—With further reference to your letters of Dec. 12 and 23, I am desired by Sir Albert Stanley to say that he understands that certain special facilities will still be given to music hall artistes by the railways under the new regulations. The President regrets the inconvenience that will necessarily be caused by the absence of such facilities as will be withdrawn. He fears, however, that in existing circumstances, it would not serve any useful purpose for him to receive a deputation from your Association.

"I am, faithfully,
"(Signed) E. [illegible] CHISON."

TOURING IN WAR-TIME.

While the question of the concession has been satisfactorily settled, the difficulty regarding the restricted train service remains. The task of revising the schedules of the various railways has not yet been completed, and on some systems the old table is for the time being in force.

SECTIONISING THE COUNTRY.

Interest in the scheme for cutting up the country into sections, for the purposes of minimising travelling, is growing, and this week we are able to print a selection from the opinions for and against the project of various managers whose experience makes their utterances valuable.

MR. JOSEPH O'MARA.

Your articles, "Touring in War-time," are of great interest to the theatrical profession. A large opera company like this, travelling close on 100 people, must naturally arrange its journeys so that they are within a reasonable travelling distance. We therefore, owing to the enormous expense of travelling, have at all times sectionised the country.

Before the Christmas holidays I asked all the members of the company to reduce their private luggage as low as possible, and I am happy to say that everyone has met the suggestion cheerfully. This has been no easy task, as the tour of this company extends from the first week of September to about the end of May, and they have to take more than the ordinary amount of personal luggage.

I have also reduced my scenery and baggage as far as I possibly can without in any way interfering with the proper staging of the different operas we produce. If all companies were to do this they would lighten the burden on the railway companies.

I should think there would be no difficulty in travelling by the ordinary trains on Saturday night or early Sunday. The railway companies have at all times given every facility to theatrical companies travelling, and now that the country demands the curtailing of services I am sure the theatrical profession will be the first to relieve the railway companies of any extra trouble.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS.

I quite agree with you that reasonable amusement is necessary even at the present moment, but to give grand opera at all adequately it would take so many people that I felt it would be unfair to my country, and so I have discontinued touring any companies at present.

MR. GEORGE DANCE.

To my mind there are very many reasons why the proposed division of the country into restricted areas would fail. In each area there would be, perhaps, two first-class theatres, four second-class theatres and a number of smaller ones. A company suitable for the first-class theatres might possibly, at a loss, play at the second ones, but certainly not at anything smaller. Again, if the system were started, it would be found that one or two pieces had already visited some of the theatres in this area and consequently could not pay an early second visit. There are many other reasons which I need not go into at the moment, but which I think would render the scheme impossible.

No; if the authorities in their wisdom choose to impose serious restrictions on travelling companies, then the travelling companies must cease, but I do not think such a proposal would emanate from the present Government. The little extra work which travelling companies threw on the railways is amply compensated for by the amusement which it affords to the great mass of the people. They cannot now go to the public-houses as they did formerly, and they cannot walk about the darkened streets. They must go somewhere, and it seems to me that the theatre and the music hall afford a pleasant and innocent relaxation from the strenuous times in which we now live.

MR. ERNEST E. DOTTRIDGE.

I consider your suggestion of shortening journeys very excellent if it could be arranged, and in view of same I give you my two pantomime dates, so that if any manager is willing to exchange they have only to write me and I will set about it and see what the local management's views are.

"ALADDIN."
Jan. 1.—Court, Wigan.
Jan. 8.—Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Jan. 15.—Ardwick Empire.
Jan. 22.—Empire, Middlesbrough.
Jan. 29.—Queen's, Leeds.
Feb. 5.—Chiswick.
Feb. 12.—Coventry.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."
Jan. 1.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Jan. 8.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Jan. 15.—Empire, Middlesbrough.
Jan. 22.—Empire, Hartlepool.
Jan. 29.—Empire, Sunderland.
Feb. 5.—Empire, South Shields.
Feb. 12.—Hippodrome, Wigan.

There should not be a moment's delay in an influential deputation waiting upon Sir Albert Stanley, pointing out the enormous amounts that would be lost from tax on amusements should there be a stoppage of same. There are over a hundred managers who have just started pantomime tours, who have expended big sums of money on the productions, and have only, at the longest, eight weeks to try and recoup themselves. If these attractions fail to reach their destination it means a serious loss to managers, to some absolute ruin, and at the same time throws thousands out of employment.

"POTASH AND PERLMUTTER IN SOCIETY" AT HASTINGS.

The provincial tour of "Potash and Perlmutter in Society," presented by Mr. Geo. Dance, by arrangement with Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard, opened at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on Boxing Day, and was attended with great success throughout the week, both matinées and evening performances attracting full houses. The company fully deserved the reception they met with. Mr. John Le Hay as Potash and Mr. Lewin Mannering as Perlmutter have long been associated with the original play, and sustain the characters with undiminished spirit and success. Mr. J. H. Melford submits a first-rate study of the pushing insurance agent, Mozart Rabiner. Mr. Charles Cautley, who is also stage manager, plays with distinction as B. Gans, Miss Rose E. Lewis and Miss Elsie Donald are excellent as Rosie Potash and Iram Potash respectively. Miss Mildred Cottell is well suited, and acts admirably, as Ruth Perlmutter, and the Mrs. Gans of Miss Esme Church is a highly interesting impersonation. The other parts are most efficiently filled, and the production is on a lavish scale.

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MISS CLARA REID.
"Our Miss Cinders" Co.
P.A., 227, High-road, Kilburn, N.W.
John Power, Active Service, East Africa.

MISS FRANCES RUTTLEDGE.
Disengaged.
A.A., 32, Regent-street, W.C.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL.
Disengaged.
4, Parkside-gardens, Wimbledon Common.

MISS MAUDE STEWART DREWRY. Concluded Lead, Torquay Repertory. Disengaged. 21, Rivercourt-road, Ravenscourt Park, W.

MISS LILIAN WARDE.
Disengaged.
4, Harley-road, S. Hampstead, N.W.

MISS FRANCES WARING.
Disengaged for a few special weeks.
Address, 334, High-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. PAUL ASH. Disengaged.
Juvenile Leads and Heavies.
Late Leading Man for P. Brown, Esq., T. Morton Powell, Esq. Offers invited.
Address, 57, Pitt-street, West Bromwich.

MR. CHARLES BARRETT.
Leading business. Disengaged Jan. 22.
This and next week,
Haggar's Theatre, Llanelly.

MR. J. HASTINGS BATSON.
A Happy New Year to All.
C/o "The Era" and the A.A.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN.
"Quinneys'."
Sam Tomlin and Stage Manager.
New T., Crewe. Jan. 8, T.R., Stockport.

MR. H. T. BRICKWELL.
Managing Director,
Canterbury Theatre of Varieties, London. S.E.

MR. W. H. CAVENDISH.
Light Comedy, Character, Aristocratic Old Men, Legitimate. Town only. Disengaged. Address, Putney Heath, S.W.

MR. THEOPHILUS CHARLTON and LYDIA DONOVAN.
Dis. Jan. 8. Term. of tour.
Good Joint or Single offers invited.
(Leading Business.)
Star Leads with "The Girl Who Took the Risk." This week, T.R., Aston.

MR. J. R. LA FANE.
Producer and Stage Director, Messrs. Moreton and Heath's "Dick Whittington" Panto. 15th year of engagement. Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. PHILIP GORDON.
Disengaged shortly for Comedy Old Men. This, T.R., Inverness. Next, New Theatre, West Stanley.

MR. WILLIAM J. GREENE.
Stage Manager,
"Jack and Jill."
Opera House, Leicester.

MR. FRED GROVE.
Ingot ("Garrick"), T.R., Torquay.
Next, O.H., Northampton.

MR. J. COURT HARVARD.
Character, Comedy, Old Men.
"The Big Show."
Empire Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. EDWARD KEITH.
Disengaged Jan. 15.
Principal Comedy.
Address, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.
Mr. R. H. Lace's Biondello is perfect.—"Burton Daily Mail," June 2, 1913. Arrangements complete. Letters, Actors' Association.

MR. CHARLES LAKE.
General Manager and Producer.
"Jack and the Beanstalk."
O.H., CHELTENHAM.

MR. & MRS. FRANK LISTON
(Maud Warburton).
32, Lady Margaret-road, London, N.W.

MR. & MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY.
Own Company. En route;
or, Rostrevor, Poulton-le-Fylde.

MR. JERROLD MANVILLE.
At liberty.
London only.
15, Tabley-road, Tufnell Park, N.

MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWS.
"Oh! I Say!!" Co.
This week, Theatre, Lancaster.
Next week, Grand, Derby.

MR. ARTHUR McCULLOCH.
At liberty Jan. 8, through indisposition. Address,
158, Lower Richmond-road, Putney.

MR. GEORGE MILLARD.
Brilliant Low Comedian.
The King in Moreton and Heath's "Sleeping Beauty" Panto.
Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY.
At liberty Jan. 21. Offers invited.
The Old Hall, Helsby, Cheshire.
'Phone, 8 Helsby.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON.
Disengaged few special weeks.
Drama, Plays, Sketches, Pictures.
162, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH.
Disengaged. Juvenile Leading Parts.
12, Lissenden Mansions, Lissenden-gardens, N.W.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON.
Disengaged. Lead, Light Comedy, Revue, Baritone. New permanent address, 33, Marchmont-street, W.C.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN.
Henri in "Oh! I Say!!"
This week, Grand Theatre, Lancaster.
Next, Grand Theatre, Derby.

MR. E. W. THOMAS and MISS AGNES KNIGHTS. Cecile Barclay and Rupert Lister's Co. G.T., Doncaster, Dec. 18 to 30. Queen's, Leeds, Jan. 1. P.A., 7, Grafton-sq., Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL.
Disengaged.
Character Parts or Old Men. Address, 27, Charrington-st., Camden Town, N.W.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR.
Radolf Rassendyll,
"The Prisoner of Zenda."
Repertory Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. BUCHANAN WAKE.
Disengaged.
Hereward, 176, All Souls-avenue, Willesden, N.W.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Theatrical Agency,
3, Bedford-street, Strand. 'Phone, 581 Ger. Tel., "Frivolous, Westrand, London."

MR. W. H. WILLATS.
Booking Manager and Business Manager for Miss Eva Moore. Disengaged.
4, Park-place, S.W.

MR. J. LISTER WILLIAMS.
Disengaged. Offers invited. Disengaged. Leading Business.
15, West-square, S.E.

MR. JAMES C. WILTON.
Father Time and Stage Manager, Robert Courtneidge's No. 1 "Arcadians" Co. H.M.T., Dundee. Next, H.M.T., Aberdeen, two weeks.

WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS

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Wire, "The Era, London."
Ring up, 4546 and 4547 Regent.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE AND EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E.
Jan. 29, March 5, 19, 26, April 2, 9, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 12, March 12, 26, April 2, 16, 30, on.

OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
April 2, May 14, 28, Aug. 6, 13, 20, on.

ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Jan. 22 (3 nights), April 30, May 7, 14, on.

HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 12, March 12, 26, April 2, 9, 16, May 14, 21, 28, on.
Good Revues, Twice Nightly.

OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
The Opera House is the only building in Northampton holding a Dramatic Licence.
April 2, 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, on.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, on.

Add., MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Reading, Feb. 12,
Huddersfield, Feb. 12.
Wire, MILTON BODE, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only. Jan. 29, Feb. 5, Feb. 26, March 19, Easter, April 30, May 14, August Bank Holiday, and onwards, with exceptions.
THE VERY BEST ATTRACTIONS BOOKED AND REBOOKED.
Re dates, JAY AND MANN.

COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Feb. 19, March 5, 19, 26, April 16, May 7. Pantomime last week broke all records.

GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 12, 26, April 2, 30, May 14, 28, on.

THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16, on.
E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

Theatre Royal, Hanley.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, once nightly, Jan. 22, Feb. 26, March 19, April 2. Twice nightly, April 16, on.
C. G. ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, a First-class Drama, Theatre Royal, Oldham, Feb. 5.
E. DOTTRIDGE, 50, Union-street, Oldham.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR TYDFIL.
Wire! Wire! Wire!
'Phone! 'Phone! 'Phone!
WANTED, Wanted Known, Jan. 8 possibly vacant, through railway service curtailment. Must be first-class show.
Panto. preferred.
REA (as above).

GRAND THEATRE, PETERBOROUGH, and THEATRE ROYAL, KING'S LYNN, GOING GREATER THAN EVER.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Good Musical Comedies, Farcical Plays, &c.
The goods that can follow "To-night's the Night," "Ye Gods," "Glad Eye," "Bit of Fluff," "Peg o' My Heart," "Rotters," "Marriage Market," Dr. Bodie, "The Man that Stayed at Home," "Ware Case," &c.
Vacant, Jan. 8, 9, and 10, Feb. 5, 19, and on.
All communications, with best offers, to Lessee and Manager, A. EDWARDS, Grand Theatre, Peterborough.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, January 8, Feb. 5, 12, and various dates onwards.
Wire for January 8.
HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

LYCEUM THEATRE. IPSWICH.
Lessee, EUGÈNE C. STAFFORD.
ONCE NIGHTLY.
WANTED, Managers with Big Attractions to apply for Dates for Musical Shows or Good London Plays. Now Booking 1917. Vacant dates Feb. 12, 26, March 12, on. Silence a polite negative.
Wire or write for terms to
E. C. STAFFORD.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH,
Vacant Feb. 5, 12, April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, onward, with exceptions.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER,
Vacant April 9, May 7, 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.
EMPIRE WORCESTER,
Arrangements complete.
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY,
Spring vacancies.
THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY,
Arrangements complete.
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY,
Arrangements complete.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH,
Spring vacancies.
All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Colehurst, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions, for the following dates:—March 19, April 23, and on, with exceptions.
Apply, re dates, to
HUGH ROBERTSON,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only,
T.R., Dublin,
G.T., Dublin.
O.H., Belfast, Feb. 26, March 5, 12 (?), April 2, May 7, 21.
O.H., Cork, Feb. 26, April 30 (?), June 4.
G.T., Swansea, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26.
G.T., Southampton, April 30 (?), May 7 (?).
T.R., Bournemouth, Jan. 29 (?).
Apply, The FRDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES, 1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted. FIRST-CLASS ATTRACTIONS For April 2, May 28, and June 4. To play Twice Nightly.
High-class companies do enormously here. "The Belle of New York" recently beat their previous visit by £140, and "Baby Mine" turned money away on several occasions.
And so did MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER and London Co. in "Find the Woman."
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Telegraphic address, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, for this premier theatre, weeks of Feb. 12, March 26 and April 2, to play either once or twice nightly,
GOOD ATTRACTIONS
GOOD ATTRACTIONS
Invariably draw big money here.
Boxing Day, "Potash and Perlmutter."
New Year's week, Arthur Bourchier and Co., in "Find the Woman."
Wire or write to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Telegraphic address: "Hustler, Birkenhead."

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR TYDFIL
WANTED, Jan. 22 and on. Vacant for First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, Revues, and Pantos. Only the best companies entertained. I am also open for Stock Companies. Big money waiting for the right shows.
Wire, 'phone, or write,
REA, Manager.

WANTED, Dramatic Company, Feb. 5. A few vacant dates for Revues later. MANAGER, Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, STOURBRIDGE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Pantos, Dramas, Jan. 15, 22, and various later. Recent and future bookings include: "Merry Widow," "Potash and Perlmutter," "Royal Divorce," "Eliza Comes to Stay," "Aladdin," "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Frills and Fancies," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Mr. Wu," Chas. Morritt, "Peg o' My Heart," "Back Home to Tennessee," "Give and Take," "Fine Feathers" "Woman Power," "Irish Eyes," "Pearl of the Orient," &c. PERCY VICTOR'S AGENCY, Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge. 'Phone, 135. Companies required for several theatres, Jan. 8, on.

WANTED, Jan. 15, good Drama, Revue, or Panto.; plenty of comedy.
GERMAN and CAULFIELD,
T.R., Tyldesley.

SHREWSBURY ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.
Wanted, NO. 1 Attractions
MONDAY NEXT
JAN. 8, 15, 29.
FEB. 19, 26.
ONWARD WITH EXCEPTIONS.
Terms, full particulars to—
BATES MADDISON.
NOTE.—Silence a polite negative *pro tem.*

WANTED, Revues and Star Acts
For January 8, 15, 22 and 29, for
NEWCASTLE PAVILION and
MANCHESTER TIVOLI,
also "SOME GIRLS" Revue, vacant Jan. 15 and 22.
FRANK ASHWORTH,
General Manager, Tivoli, Manchester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
Jan. 22, Feb. 5 (?), 26, Mar. 12.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 12, 19, Mar. 5.
PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
Late autumn dates only, 1917.
H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
28, Wingate-road, Ravenscourt Park, W.
'Phone, Hammersmith 452.
Wires, "Topobill, Hammer, London."

KIDDERMINSTER GRAND PLAYHOUSE.
The most Comfortable and Modern Theatre in the town.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Three or six nights.
Address, WALTER REYNOLDS, Junr., 81-83, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, Strong Musical and Dramatic Attractions.
Swindon, Feb. 5, 26, March 19, 26, April 2, 9, 23, 30, on, with exceptions.
Tidworth, Jan. 15, Feb. 5, 12, March 5, 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, on, with exceptions.
Bulford, Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 6, 12, 19, March 5, 12, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, on, with exceptions.
ALFRED MANNERS, Empire, Swindon.

Dalston Theatre, N.E.
WANTED, First-class, well-known Revues for my Twice Nightly Revue Season, starting April 16. Only really Big Box Office Attractions known to the London public need apply. J. LANGDON LEE.

COUNTY HALL,
ST. ALBANS.
ST. ALBANS.
ST. ALBANS.
WANTED, through disappointment, first-class Revue, Musical Attraction or Drama, 3 nights, Jan. 11, 12, 13; also Jan. 18, 19, 20. Twice nightly.
Good Pantomime
Wanted (first in), Jan. 15, 22 (6 nights).
Wire,
FOSTER,
Theatre, St. Albans.

WANTED, first-class Attractions for Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 26, March 19, Easter.
Coms., CHARLTON MANN, Adelphi T.

WANTED, good-class Theatrical Companies, Concert Parties and Revues, for 3 or 6 days. Full particulars to
Electric Theatre,
Newport Pagnell,
Bucks.

WANTED, First-class Attractions. H. M., DUNDEE, Jan. 29.
Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Feb. 12.
Tyne, Newcastle (twice nightly), Feb. 5, 19, March 5 and 12.
Apply, GEO. T. MINSHULL, Lyceum, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday and Jan. 15 (Devon). Wire, Revues, Dramas, &c.; also Jan. 15, on, 27, Theatres, Staffs, Wales, Midlands. Wire, HAYES' AGENCY, 389, Mill-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for March 5 (through obliging well-known Manager).
Only the best attractions booked here as list will show: — Mr. Raynor and Miss Ennis Lawson (fourth visit in one year), "Betty," "My Lady Frayle," "The Toreador," Walter Bishop's "Whittington," Bruce Green's "Aladdin," "Hobson's Choice," "The Rotters," "Ye Gods," "Potash and Perlmutter," "The Barton Mystery," "A Message from Mars," Rupert Lister and Cecile Barclay in Repertoire, "The Witness for the Defence."
Arrangements have been made with Mr. Raynor for a Summer Stock Season of High-class Plays.
Only vacant dates this spring, March 5, March 26 (?). May 7, 14, and 21.
Address, H. L. WARBURTON, General Manager.

Empire, Newton Abbot.
WANTED, First-class Revue or Drama, Jan. 8, also 29; playing to packed houses.
Apply, POOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON SPA.
WANTED, No. 1 Co.'s of every description, Musical Comedies, West-End Plays of all kinds.
This week, "Romance"; Jan. 8, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's "Aladdin"; Jan. 15, "When Knights Were Bold"; Jan. 22, Geo. Brydon Phillips' "Cinderella"; Jan. 29, "Grumpy." Vacant dates from Feb. 15, on, with exceptions. All communications, Mr. C. WATSON MILL, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR TYDFIL.
Feb. 5 and on, with exceptions.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Musical Comedies, Revues, and Pantos; good Stock Company also entertained. The right shows can take away big money. Only such considered.
Write, R. T. REA, Manager.

NEW THEATRE, PORT TALBOT.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedies, Good Revues, and Dramas.
Vacant Jan. 29, Feb. 8, 3 nights, onwards, with exceptions.
All communications, EDWARD FURNEAU.

EMPIRE, ALEXANDRIA, DUMBARTONSHIRE.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Jan. 22. Business excellent.
HENRY ESMOND.

SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical Comedy, Revue, or Repertoire), Jan. 29, Feb. 12, and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK, Theatre, Harrogate.

Theatre Royal, Castleford.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Jan. 15, and possibly Jan. 29.
MASTERMAN, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 8, 22, 29.
Wire,
HORNER,
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

HIPPODROME AND QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
WANTED, for Jan. 22 (owing to transfer), Good Revue, to play full programme twice nightly, or first-class once-nightly Musical Comedy attraction (no pantomime), to follow:—Jan. 1, "Betty"; Jan. 8, Mr. Harry McKelvie's "Mother Hubbard"; Jan. 15, "The Toreador."
Address, FRANCIS LAIDLER, Alhambra, Bradford.

Theatre Royal, Colchester.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Musical Comedies, Revues, and High-class Plays (Twice nightly).
Vacant March 19 onwards, with few exceptions.
A. J. CLAMP.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Monday next, Jan. 8, for Palace Theatre, Bow, Powerful Musical Attraction, Pantomime or Revue.

BAUGH, Palace Theatre, Battersea. Wire, "Stageyness, London." 'Phone, Battersea 1652.

NEW THEATRE, SALISBURY.
WANTED, Company for Jan. 8 (through obliging), Jan. 8 (through obliging), Jan. 8 (through obliging), Musical Comedy, Drama, Comedy, or High-class Combination. Wire. Wire. Wire. ALBANY WARD, Guildhall-chambers, Weymouth.

THE VINT TOUR.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the very best PANTOMIMES, REVUES, MUSICAL COMEDIES, COMEDIES, STAR VARIETY COMBINATIONS OR ANY NOVELTY PLAYING AN HOUR. To amuse hosts of Munition Workers. Salary or Share. BIG BUSINESS TO RIGHT ACTS. Consecutive Dates and Short Journeys. Booked direct or through any Agency. Reply to JAMES J. WELCH, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C. 'Phone, Gerrard 6549. Wires, "Vinticon, London."

GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
One of the most popular and prosperous theatres in the Midlands. 16 miles from Nottingham, 22 from Sheffield.
WANTED, the very best Revues and Musical Comedies, or Tip-top Variety Combinations. Vacant Jan. 22, Feb. 12, 19, April 2, and various onward. Splendid business for good shows. Open to arrange shares or "certs." Stage, 60 by 40. 42 to grid. All communications to CECIL CLAYTON.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, a Good Panto for Feb. 12 (second panto in), also Strong Attractions, Feb. 19, and various onwards. Apply, PETER RUSKIN, Variety Agent, 41, Queen Bertha-road, Ramsgate. Telegrams, Ruskin, Palace, Ramsgate. Telephone, 31 Ramsgate.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
The Premier Theatre in Cheshire.
First vacant date, March 5, and onwards with exceptions.
WANTED, only the very best productions.
Apply, A. DOUGLASS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

PAVILION THEATRE, WEYMOUTH.
Lessee and Manager, Ernest Wheeler.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions. Musical, Revusical, Farcical. Jan. 8. Jan. 8. Jan. 8. Jan. 15. Jan. 15. Jan. 15. All communications, ERNEST WHEELER, Weymouth.

Variety Theatre, Eastleigh.
WANTED, through obliging manager, Monday next, JAN. 8. REVUE or DRAMA. JAN. 8. JAN. 8. REVUE or DRAMA. JAN. 8. Last week Rose Cambry's combination played to record business. Refer. Wire. Wire. Wire. GEO. WRIGHT, Variety Theatre, Eastleigh.

WANTED, Good Revues or Fit-up Panto, Jan. 15, week and onwards. Apply, Z. ANDREWS, Manager, Empire Theatre, Aberdare.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE." "A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this phenomenal attraction, the weeks of April 16 and 23.
The Greatest Success now Touring. On its 53rd visit to the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, recently, it played to £1,239. Not so bad for a play that has been touring continuously for just on 26 years. Write immediately to W. W. KELLY, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Wires to "Hustler, Birkenhead."

WANTED, Jan. 8 and 22, by that Screamingly Funny Revue, "WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT?" "WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT?" A Revue with two years' reputation. Now playing all return dates. Over 20 people. Over 20 people. Four scenes worked like lightning. The funniest show on the road. Refer anywhere played and return, which should speak for itself.
Wires, ROSSLYN, Grand Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

Mr. Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds."
WANTED, Jan. 8, 29, Feb. 5. All communications re dates to MR. ROBERT ARTHUR, Ancaster House, 42, Cranbourn-st., W.C. Telegrams: "Karnoisms, West Strand, London." Telephone: Regent, 2.551.

Ireland's Representative Comedian, CHALMERS MACKEY in "THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN" and "THE PRIDE OF THE O'GRADY'S." Gigantic Success in his Native Isle.
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 12, Feb. 12. Feb. 12. Wire or write, CHALMERS MACKEY, White's Hotel, Wexford; next, O.H., Cork.

"Ann" (5th year) and "Beecham" (2nd year).
WANTED, Feb. 19, 26, March 5, April 2, 9, 23. HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, Park-pl., St. James's, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

EDITH PANTING PRESENTS "JENNY OMROYD." "JENNY OMROYD." "JENNY OMROYD."
The laughing success of the century.
Third year of tour.
"JENNY OMROYD."
WANTED, Jan. 22, 29, and Feb. 5. This is an Ideal Holiday Attraction.
Address, EDITH PANTING, This, Palace, Melton Mowbray. Next, T.R., Whitchaven.

The Grand Christmas Pantomime, "LITTLE JACK HORNER."
WANTED, Theatres, Immediate Dates, for this splendid show. Managers come and see it this week at Coliseum Theatre, Long Eaton, Derbyshire. next week, Jan. 8, The Hippodrome, Batley, Yorkshire.
Address, BARRETT, 7, Hemlock-avenue, Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

J. FORBES KNOWLES' PLAYS AND TOURS.
"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY," "TOMMY ATKINS," "FALLEN BY THE WAY," "STEPMOTHER," "GARRICK," &c.
WANTED, Jan. 15, 22, and onwards. Wanted, Good Theatres for Stock.
J. FORBES KNOWLES, Hippodrome, Bursiem.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. FRED KARNO'S REVUES.
"HOT AND COLD" (Featuring A. W. Bascomb).
"ALL WOMEN" (Featuring Lily Long, Betty Balfour, and Mona Magnet).
"£ S. D." (Featuring Syd Walker.)
"ON AND OFF" (Featuring Archie Glen, Beatrice Allen, and Jimmy Russell).
"MUMMING BIRDS."
WANTED, Jan. 8, 29, Feb. 5.
All communications re dates, apply MR. ROBERT ARTHUR, Ancaster House, 42, Cranbourn-street, W.C.
Telegrams, "Karnoisms, Westrand, London." Telephone, Regent 2551.

Owing to the demand for Bookings, Extension of Tour.
"DIANA OF DOBSONS." "DIANA OF DOBSONS." "DIANA OF DOBSONS."
Entire Kingsway Theatre Production. Note.—As the cast of this play consists of thirteen ladies and three gentlemen, the tour will not be affected by military service. Can be played in its entirety twice nightly.
WANTED, First-class Theatres and Music Halls, for Feb. 5, 12, 19, and on, till Whitsun, 1917. Bookings include Wimbledon, Marlborough, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Nottingham, Cardiff, and all leading Provincial Theatres. HAROLD V. NEILSON, 89, Parliament-hill Mansions, N.W.

OWING to War Conditions, Advertisements must reach this Office not later than **4 o'clock on Tuesdays,** otherwise insertion cannot be guaranteed.

WANTED, for the successful Revue "AU REVOIR PARIS," "AU REVOIR PARIS," "AU REVOIR PARIS," Jan. 15, Midlands, Feb. 5, between Darlington and Barrow, Feb. 19, between Barrow and Stockton, April 9, between Hamilton and Aston. Tremendous success on Moss' Tour, also at Devonport, Southsea, Aldershot and Chatham. All communications to ALFRED PEREZOFF, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

WANTED, Theatres between South Wales and London, Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, "A Pitman's Daughters" and "A Love Marriage." Please refer to Mr. Withers re business at Bargoed. W. V. GARROD, T.R., Merthyr; next, Workmen's Hall, Blenavon, Mon.

"RAFFLES."
WANTED, March 12, Easter, April 23, May 7. Apply, GERALD ALEXANDER, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

CROMO and HAMILTON'S Great Successful Pantomime, "JACK AND JILL."
WANTED, Theatre, Unexpectedly Vacant, Jan. 22, between Birmingham and Bootle.
Address, JACK CROMO, Empire, Penge.

C. A. STEPHENSON, A. M. NORRIS, and MISS VIVIEN CARTER present "CINDERELLA."
First-class Principals and company of 40. Nine Gorgeous Scenes. Enormous success last week, Hip., Richmond; this week, Hip., Golders Green.
WANTED, Jan. 22, to follow Mansfield, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, to precede Bedford. Write or wire, this week, to C. A. STEPHENSON, 28, Elgin-court, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Jan. 8, on, "Niobe," follow Weymouth. "Second to None," "A Woman's Past," "What Happened to Jones." WEATHERSBY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED Known, Companies supplied at short notice in Farce, Comedy or Drama. WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates for "Beauty and the Beast," Jan. 22, Feb. 5. The most brilliant pantomime success touring.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE." "ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 29, to follow Llanelly, for Francis Laidman's Gorgeous Pantomime. 10 beautiful scenes. Old-fashioned Ballets. Laughter. Beauty. Vocalism. This week, South Parade Theatre, Southsea. Next, New Theatre, Bargoed. Jan. 15, New Theatre, Pontypridd. Jan. 22, Vint's, Llanelly. Vacant, Jan. 29, onwards. Address as above.

WANTED, March 5 and several on, for "LEND ME YOUR HUSBAND" (Original Comedy in 3 acts), to follow Empire Theatre, Oswestry.
Miss Stella E. Ray ("the Ally Girl") and picked company of comedians. Add., FRED BENTLEY, Empire, Ebbw Vale.

SAY WHEN. SAY WHEN. SAY WHEN. SAY WHEN.
VACANT MONDAY, JAN. 8, Between Shoreham-by-Sea and Kettering.
THIS Revue has now played for four months with big success, featuring the following artistes:—Harrie Fawn and Chas. Cardell, Jackson and Marte, Sisters Caird, Mlle. Anita, and the 4 College Belles, and usual Chorus.
PLAYED IN THREE SCENES, FROM ONE HOUR TO FULL TIME. ALL PRINTING READY.
Best Offers to HAWKES, Hippodrome, Peterborough, or Phil Gilbert, Egbert's, French's, or any Established Agency.
Also Vacant Jan. 29 and Feb. 5, To precede Palace, Bradford.

THEATRES WANTED.

To Proprietors, Managers, &c.

THE SUCCESSFUL REVUE

STEP FORWARD

BY CHAS. BALDWIN.

Clean and Refined. Up to Date.
Has been revised and reproduced and can only entertain FIRST-CLASS DATES

Cast includes BILLY FIELDING, MAUDIE PHILLIPS, LESLIE DEANE, AND CECILE RUSSELL, etc., etc.

HAVE A FEW IMMEDIATE DATES OPEN for first-class halls only. WIRE FOR JANUARY 8 (SOUTH), and other vacancies, to

DEANE & RUSSELL,

This week—HIPPODROME, WREXHAM.

Charles Macdona's Companies

No. 1 Pygmalion Co.
WANTED
March 26 and April 30.
No. 1 Her Husband's Wife Co.
Now playing to enormous business at The New Theatre,
Vacant 3 nights, Jan. 18, 19, 20, Feb. 19, March 5.
This play can be performed twice nightly.
CHARLES MACDONA, 29A, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Enormous Success in London.
Booking Managers invited to see
FIND THE LADY
This week at E., Edmonton,
1½ Hours' Scream.
"AN EMPHATIC SUCCESS."
HARRY RAY, an Absolute Hit
LILLIE CALDEN, a Triumph.
Vacant, JAN. 15, 22.
To follow LANCASTER HIPPO.
Wire Harry Ray, en route.

MR. MARTIN HENRY'S CO.,
"MR WU."
By Harry M. Vernon and Harold Owen,
The big play with the big punch.
On its recent revival at the Strand Theatre "Mr. Wu" played to as big business as when originally produced.
Mr. Henry is sending out an absolutely first-class company, and new scenery, properties and dresses, and as he holds all rights of this play, invites applications from first-class theatres, once or twice nightly. "Mr. Wu" is played in its entirety twice nightly.
Vacant, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, March 5, April 9, 30, May 14, and on with exceptions.
MARTIN HENRY, 19, Bow St., London, W.C.

THE LINK THAT BINDS.
Vacant Jan. 15 and 22.
Wanted Jan. 15 and 22.
THE LINK THAT BINDS
IS A FIRST-CLASS PRODUCTION.
EVERYTHING CARRIED.
THE LINK THAT BINDS
CAN TAKE THE MONEY.
GOOD CLEAN COMEDY.
A GRIPPING STORY.
A FIRST-CLASS COMPANY.
WIRE FOR JANUARY 15.
ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
E. FURNEAU,
New Theatre, PORT TALBOT.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. between Smethwick and London, for The Unique Drama, "WOMAN POWER." A Play Descriptive of Woman Life. Played entirely by Women. Enormous Cast. Seven Special Scenes. Wire, BAUGH, Palace, Battersea. Wire, "Stageyness, London." 'Phone, Battersea 1652

"KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING." "KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING." "KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING." "KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING." "KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING." "KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 12. Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 12. Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 12. Jan. 22, Jan. 29, Feb. 12. Two Companies Touring.
This play, during the present tour at a twice-nightly theatre, played to £100 (one hundred pounds) in one house (no holiday).
"THE VICAR'S WIFE." "THE VICAR'S WIFE." "THE VICAR'S WIFE." "THE VICAR'S WIFE." "THE VICAR'S WIFE." "THE VICAR'S WIFE." Jan. 29, Feb. 12, Feb. 26. Jan. 29, Feb. 12, Feb. 26. Jan. 29, Feb. 12, Feb. 26. Jan. 29, Feb. 12, Feb. 26.
Wire, HARRY FOXWELL, Wire, 268, Lytham-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Jan. 8, to follow Seacombe, for "SUNNY TENNESSEE," the Musical Comedy Revue. Cast includes Ritchie Winn, Smith, Martinetti, Jasper White, Wallace, Dorothy St. Elmo, Edie Moranda, Iris Verden, F. Roberts, H. Jeanette, C. Sarter, 8 Jingling Belles, supported by full operatic chorus. "A Success Everywhere." "Plenty of Comedy and Good Singing." Wire, "Pioneering, London." 'Phone, 1498 Holborn.
Full particulars from COLONIAL AMUSEMENTS CO., 118-122, Holborn, E.C.

WANTED, Jan. 15, to follow Worthing, for "TEN LITTLE NIGGER BOYS," a "Revusical Panto. Absurdity," with a plethora of pungent patter, providing phenomenal pictures of clever black and white comedy.
Featuring Eva Barnes, Fred Hawtree, Annette Cambrai, Dan Lyons, Ed. Lester, Rita Kingsley, Ivy Lusher, Ed. Palmley, Phyllis Brocklebank, Dave Ward, Bertha Cyril, Sam Henry, Barnes' Troupe of 10 Ballet Girls, with full supporting Chorus. Full particulars from COLONIAL AMUSEMENTS CO., 118-122, Holborn, E.C. Tel., Holborn 1498. Telegrams, "Pioneering, London."

VINT AND McKENZIE'S "ALL THE NICE GIRLS." "ALL THE NICE GIRLS." Up-to-Date Musical Comedy.
WANTED, Jan. 22, 29, March 5. This, Met., Bootle. Next, T.R., St. Helens. Replies to JAMES J. WELCH, 142, Long-acre, W.C.

"THAT'S THAT" Revue. By Chas. Danvers, the originator of "Go To Jericho." Still going merrily on. Can take big money where money is to be taken.
WANTED, Jan. 29, Feb. 5; S.W. preferred. Wire, CHAS. DANVERS, 47, Charing Cross-road.

The Greatest of all Farces. "ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY." 52 weeks of tour.
WANTED, Jan. 22, Yorkshire. Jan. 22, Yorkshire. Feb. 19, Midlands. March 5, precede Brighton. FORBES RUSSELL, 5, Garrick-street, W.C.

Lena Stanton's Pantomime, "SINBAD."
WANTED, Jan. 22, Feb. 12, on. "Jack and the Beanstalk," Jan. 15, 22, on. All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, 99, Russell-street, Peterborough.

ARTISTES WANTED.

Miss Mary Austin's Tour.
WANTED, a lady for Character Comedy, Old Woman (motherly type, not short). Open Monday next. Full particulars, photos., last two references, and lowest terms, MARY AUSTIN, 16, Trinity-street, Brierley Hill.

WANTED, Young, Pretty Girl, about 18, for flapper part in farce. Call between 11-12.30. RUSSELL, Hotel Provence, Leicester-square (opposite Daly's).

Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
WANTED, First-class Comedian for Stock, to rehearse next Monday. Photos., terms, and references, E. HILL-MITCHELSON, T.R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Actor, to play judge's part, for music halls. Must be able to sing and speak well. Apply, with all particulars, to J. B. WISE, Palace, Reading.

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, open when perfect, Good Actor (young), for repertoire; quick, perfect study imperative; fare paid to join. Age, height, refs., photo, and lowest terms. If known to me wire. Good Carpenter (own tools), to combine baggage and speak few lines, may also write. CHALMERS MACKEY, White's Hotel, Wexford; next, O.H., Cork.

Prince of Wales' Th., Grimsby.
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

Now Booking Pantomime for Next Season.
Send Four for This Season.

Palace Theatre, Scunthorpe.
Tivoli Theatre, Grimsby.
Strand Theatre, Grimsby.
Lyric Theatre, Grimsby.

All communications re dates to J. H. CURRY, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Grimsby.
Telegraphic Address: "CURRY, Grimsby." Telephone: 240.

JOSEPH MILLANE'S ENTERPRISES.

SOMEWHERE A VOICE IS CALLING.
VACANCIES: Jan. 8, 22. Feb. 5, 19. Mar. 5, and on, with exceptions.

THE CONFESSIONS OF A WIFE.
VACANCIES: Jan. 15, 29. Feb. 12, 26. Mar. 12, and on, with exceptions.

WHEN THE HEART IS YOUNG.
WANTED: Jan. 22, and on, with exceptions.

NEW PRODUCTION.
HER DAY OF RECKONING.
WANTED: Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 19, 26.

JOSEPH MILLANE, Edgbaston House, 183, Broad St., Birmingham.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED immediately, Character Actor (American part) for Revue, to join at once. Call, 'phone, or write, with full particulars and lowest salary. Long engagement to suitable party. F. NAPOLI, Variety Agency, 35, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Comedian, short, Jimmy Learmouth type; revue; open at once; sing and dance preferred. Box 692, "The Era."

WANTED, Musical Director, Smart Chorus Ladies (tall), also Character Comedian, and Carpenter, to touch up; open at once. Apply, 1 o'clock, CHAS. DANVERS, 47, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED immediately, smart, attractive
Chorus Ladies.

Salary, £2 per week.

Apply,
GEORGE CARNEY,

This week, Empire, New Cross.

Next week, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, for big Tour; £2; write only; also Pretty Dancer, Big Man Actor, Small Part Lady (must be pretty). Carpenter and Props. Write only to R. SYDNEY, 250, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Immediately,
Chorus Ladies
and Dancers.

Long Tour. Terms, photos., refs, to
ALFRED PEREZOFF,
Theatre Royal, Chatham.

Those who wrote before write again. Letters mislaid.

WANTED, Smart Dancers; immediate work. Apply, 11 till 4, Wednesday and Thursday, 9, Great Newport-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C. E. BARNES (top floor).

WANTED, immediately, Chorus Ladies and Dancers. Send height, photo., &c. (or apply personally), STAGE MANAGER, "Sunny Tennessee," Scala Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, immediately. Apply, 9, Great Newport-street, Charing Cross-road, W.C. E. BARNES (Top Floor).

WANTED immediately, Page Girls, and smart, pretty Dancing Girls medium height; preference given to those who have worked for me before. I pay exceptionally good salaries and employ only sober, willing, hard-working people. To satisfactory people two years' contract, with world tour to follow. State fullest particulars, experience, age, height, weight send photo, stamped addressed envelope, say where working, THE GREAT RAYMOND, Palace Theatre, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, Girls desirous of being brought out as Classical Ballet Dancers to call to-day, 3 p.m., for particulars. DELPHINE'S SCHOOL OF BALLET, 48, Carnaby-street, Beak-street Regent-street. (Bring dress and shoes.)

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED Known, Scottish Character Actor and Comedian; at liberty; first-class offers only. Box 642, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Engagements by Tenor Vocalist. What offers? Tel. Brixton 1,702. JOHN MACLENNAN, 185, Loughborough-road, Brixton.

WANTED Known, Disengaged, WILL WEST, Character Comedian; char. comedy parts; Lancs or Yorks dialect; offers invited for revue. Wire, 100, Victoria-road, Stretford, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, revue or single act, JACK WELLS, Light Comedian and Dancer. Just concluded three years revue, Juvenile Lead. Wire, Victoria Theatre, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Monday next, Revue or Panto., by Billy Wyte. The Funny Fellow, and Harry Fife, The Straight One. Have just finished successful six months tour with revue, causing screams of laughter. Can now accept offers for principal comedian and character part. Must be first-class offers. Late of Max Erard's companies. Wire if you require good sound comedy merchants. Both rejected (final). Wire, 150, Queen's-road, Liverpool.

WANTED Known, Vocalist of great experience in Concert and Oratorio work, true Italian Method, open to coach pupils for stage and concert work, deportment, &c.; engagements accepted for accompanying voice or strings. Address, VOCALIST, 12, Tavistock-road, Westbourne Park, W.

WANTED, Wanted Known,
Blonde, 20, refined, educated,
5ft. 4in., no experience,
as willing to
Assist in any way.
Not temporary.
Any distance.
Commence Jan. 15 or later.
Photo and particulars,
all letters answered,
Box 676, "The Era."

WANTED—FULL COMPANY
for Farce Repertoire. Four plays week each. Only those with farce experience apply. Full particulars, salary, experience, age, height, photos, REPERTOIRE, Box 668, "The Era."

Tour of one of Most Successful London Revues.

WANTED—10 CHORUS LADIES.
Must be very pretty, young, good figures and voices, capable of understudying if required. Salary £2 to £2 10s. a week. Full particulars, photos., height, figure, &c., REVUE, Box 669, "The Era."

WANTED—YOUNG LADY (16 to 20).
Brunette. Must be pretty and nice figure. Walk on and understudy. Tour of big London success. Full particulars, height, figure, age, photos, BRUNETTE, Box 670, "The Era."

WANTED—YOUNG LADY, BLONDE.
Refined and very pretty; small part. Must not look more than 18. Tour, West-End success. Full particulars, photos, BLONDE, Box 671, "The Era."

WANTED—PRINCIPAL LADIES
for Tour of first-class London Revue. Full particulars, voice, photos, complexion, age, experience, &c., PRINCIPAL, Box 672, "The Era."

WANTED—6 DANCERS
(High Kickers). Must be young, pretty, and good workers. Tour London Revue. Photos, age, height, &c., DANCER, Box 673, "The Era."

WANTED—An exceptionally attractive and pretty Young Lady to Pose (Model) in Revue. Must have good figure. First-class tour best halls. Photos (in tights preferred), measurements, age, salary, &c., MODEL, Box 674, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Panto, Principal Girl and Second Boy to understudy Comedian.

Photo, terms, refs., to
HARRY JOSEPH,
99, Russell-street, Peterborough.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

WANTED, good Soprano and Comedian for concert party; joint not objected to (with speciality preferred). Call, 11 till 1, or write, with fullest particulars, photos (imperative), stamp return, references, lowest terms, to MANAGER, 21, Moreton-street, Victoria, London, S.W.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS' WANTS.

A. VARLEY HURST, Baritone,, ineligible, a high-class singer of high-class songs.

WANTED, for C. P. or Musical Act, only good offers invited. Coms., East-street, Golcar, near Huddersfield.

CINEMA EMPLOYMENT.

WANTED, Six Young Ladies, for a Cinema Film Play. Write, full particulars, age, height, to FILMPLAY, Box 652, "The Era."

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Unsuccessful Pupils to Join our classes for Ballet, Step, and Musical Comedy Dancing. The tuition that tells. Our pupils now engaged London Hippodrome Empire, and other London and provincial theatres. Turns Coached and Dances Arranged for Special Purposes. Mod. fees. DELPHINE and GEO. SHURLEY'S School of Dancing, 43, Carnaby-st., Beak-st., Regent-st.

WANTED, Girls desirous of being brought out as Classical Ballet Dancers, to call to-day for particulars, 3 p.m. DELPHINE'S SCHOOL OF BALLET, 48, Carnaby-street, Beak-street, Regent-street. (Bring dress and shoes.)

WANTED, Pupils for Classical Operatic and Dancing Act. Write for interview to MISS CONSTANCE MAY, Messrs. Parkinson, 53, Fife-road, Kingston, Surrey.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted,
Smart and Capable
Stage Manager.

Apply,
stating experience and salary required,
to
GEORGE CARNEY,

This week, Empire, New Cross.

Next week, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Assistance of Press Agent. Must be very experienced and influential in Theatrical Advertisement.

Write, Box 653, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, a first-class Booking Manager of good standing, with good connection, to book good shows and revues. Apply, Box 680, "The Era."

WANTED, Capable Manager, Stage Carpenter, Juvenile Lead, and Chorus Ladies; revue; open Monday next, South. Terms, refs., photos, DEANE & RUSSELL, Hippodrome, Wrexham.

WANTED, good Electrician and Stage Manager, must be able to work Bioscope, and exempt from military service. Abstainer preferred. State age, married or single, references and lowest terms, to C. A. SEEBOLD, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Rough Carpenter, for hoarding building; permanent job for good man. Apply, THOMAS SMITH'S BILLPOSTING LTD., 61, Frith-street, Soho, W.

WANTED, Carpenter (resident), for Kennington Theatre, S.E. Permanency to suitable man. Apply, with terms and full particulars, to W. R. KING, Kennington Theatre, S.E.

Opera House, Dudley.

WANTED, to open on Jan. 15, a really good Stage Carpenter. Exempt from military service. Must have own tools and be willing to make himself generally useful. Total abstainer preferred. Apply, with latest references and lowest terms, to MANAGER, Opera House, Dudley.

WANTED, Carpenter, ineligible, to take charge of stage, do billing; one who can repair and touch up preferred; permanency to suitable man. Full particulars and salary, first letter, start immediately.
CROW,
Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

WANTED, immediately, Carpenter, must be sober and steady, to combine baggage. THE COLONIAL AMUSEMENTS, 118, Holborn, E.C.

EGBERT'S AGENCY, LTD.

WANTED, Wanted. Wanted,
Carpenter,
wardrobe and baggage.

Apply,
3 o'clock to-day,
Piccadilly Mansions,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Carpenter and Props., Two First-class Men, for Musical Comedy; good wages paid to suitable men. Write, stating wages and refs., Box 681, "The Era."

WANTED, Scenic Artist, Stage Carpenter (bench hand), Property Man; all resident. Age, salary, references, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED immediately, expert Mechanic, also Cabinet Maker Baggage Men, and useful people. All must wear uniform (provided) if required. Preference given to those who have worked for me before, and to those who have served the King and country. I pay exceptionally good salaries, and employ only sober, willing, hard-working people. To satisfactory people two years' contract, with world tour to follow. Fullest particulars, age, height, photo, THE GREAT RAYMOND, Palace Theatre, Walthamstow London.

WANTED, Doorman; ineligible.

Terms, references, first letter.

Box 663, c/o "The Era."

WANTED Known, well-known Manager requires change; town preferred; young and good appearance; discharged from Army; keen advertiser and used to sole control and booking; thoroughly understands all branches theatrical and cinema work; terms good, or useless. MANAGER, 594, High-road, Chiswick, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Lady for Box-office (resident). Age, salary, references,
E. G. FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, by Manager (ineligible), a liberty Jan. 8, age 33, 15 years' experience. References, disciplinarian, experienced advertiser. Guarantee bond. Wife pianiste, advertiser. Guarantee bond. Wife Pianiste, solo and orchestral. Used to drama, pictures, and variety. Only high-class drama, variety, or picture halls entertained. HARRY BROWN, 103, Midland-road, Wellingboro'.

WANTED Known, LANGLEY WYATT, Advertising Manager, disengaged; ineligible. Resident or tour. Late George Dance and Harry Day's Co.'s. 3, Ship-street-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED Known, Disengaged Monday, Asst. Man. or Advt. Manager; pics. or variety; young and refined; experienced. Refs., MISS HARRISON, 2, Berkley-sq. Bristol.

WANTED Known, Disengaged, through disappointment, an experienced Stage Manager-Carpenter; can open at once; abstainer; good refs.; ineligible; used to quick variety programme. Wire or write, state offer, STAGE MANAGER, 85, Brandon-street, London, S.E.

WANTED Known, Carpenter, Disengaged; bench hand; own tools; ex. refs.; also Wardrobe Mistress; good joint; open at once. P.A., JACK CHARLTON, 27, St. Luke's-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, by Practical Carpenter; make, mend, and fake; own tools; abstainer; just finished 4 tours, Walter Howard, Esq., Musical Comedy and Revue experience. JIM MORGAN, 9, Wingfield-street, Peckham, London, S.E.

WANTED Known, Young Man seeks Engagement as General Utility; resident or touring; good, reliable worker; vacant Monday. Box 679, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, joint, in cinema or theatre pay-box (Army discharged), wife as attendant and relieve pianist if required. S., 22 Surbiton-road, Kingston, Surrey.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, Mus. Dir.; must be well up in Varieties and Pictures (music found); also 'Cello; can open at once. MANAGER, Gosport Theatre, Gosport.

WANTED, immediately, Musical Director (Piano); must be able to arrange. THE COLONIAL AMUSEMENTS, 118, Holborn, E.C.

WANTED, Musical Director (Variety). State age and military position. To open in a few weeks' time. Also 'Cello. TOM STEVENS, M.D., Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, OPEN MONDAY NEXT, Good Piano Conductor, Drums, and First Violin; permanent shop for right people. Absolute lowest terms, with refs., in first letter, to N. SHEDD, 10, Cromwell-road, Peterborough.

Florence Baines' Companies.

WANTED, open at once, good Pianist Conductor for Touring. Must arrange. Terms, references, and full particulars. This, Palace, Gloucester. Next, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, first-class Conductor. Good salary to good man. Rehearse London, Monday. Apply immediately, DENTON'S AGENCY, 56, Whitcomb-st., Leicester-square.

WANTED immediately, First-class Pianist-Conductor; lady or gentleman. RAVENSCROFT, Hippodrome, Spennymoor; next, Empire, Oswestry.

WANTED, Wanted. Wanted,
First-class Violin,
as Leader;
one with library preferred;
Must be used to standard works;
£3 5s.;
Pictures, start at once.

MUNNS,
Gem, Gravesend.

WANTED, Leader, for London cinema, Forest Gate, E.; afternoon and evenings, no Sundays; terms £4 week; must be good reader, and have a strong tone; open Monday, Jan. 8, 1917. Call, with instrument, at 44, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale, Thursday morning, at 11 o'clock.

WANTED, Good Leader, Double Bass (ineligible), to start Jan. 8, Folkestone Hippodrome. Wire or write terms, M. D., 34, Bournemouth-road, Folkestone. A.M.U. terms.

WANTED, to open Jan. 8, good Leader, for Varieties (lady or gent.); strong player. Terms, refs., to MURPHY, Palace, Dundee.

WANTED at once, for Cinema in London, Leader Violinist, also Drums (Violin bring instrument). Apply, between 10 and 12, CARCEDO, 25, Oxendon-street, Haymarket, W.

WANTED, 1st Violinist, to start Jan. 8, for Trio, Cinema and Variety, Evenings, daily matinées (no Sundays). Terms, &c., to L. M. P., 2, Gloucester-place, Cheltenham.

Empire Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, First Violin, Violoncello, Trombone, and 2nd Cornet, to open on Monday, Jan. 8.
Apply to THOS. WALKER, Musical Conductor.

WANTED, Wanted, Musicians, for First-class Variety Halls. Glasgow Coliseum, First Violin, Oboe, and Clarinet.
Birmingham Empire, 'Cellist.
Must be experienced in high-class variety (A.M.U.).
Write, enclosing copies references, to N. P., Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn Mansions, W.C.

WANTED, First and Second Violins, for pictures.
Comfortable shop
Write, with references,
MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
29, Salusbury-road, West Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED Known, ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOL. Finest training school in London for Violinistes and Pianistes who wish to become leaders and get good appointments. Tavan and Alder arrangements studied. Violin professor, Maud Riseley, A.R.A.M. Elementary and advanced classes held Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays. Low fee. 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, good Violinist (Lady or Gent.), capable of taking charge of small orchestra, and leading with same. JAMES DUNNE, 60, Main-st. and 41, Grattan-sq., Dungarvan.

WANTED, experienced Violinist, to open Monday next. Apply, with full particulars, to THE MANAGER, Hippo., Exeter.

WANTED, Violinist (lady or gent.) and Pianist, immediately. Must be first-class players, with good experience cinema work. Hours 3 till 10. No Sundays. Bohemia Cinema, Church End, Finchley.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Violinist (Tavan and Alder arrangements), for cinema; afternoons, 3.15 till 4.45; evenings, 7 till 10.15; no Sundays; comfortable, permanent engagement; open Jan. 8 or 15; half fare paid; good salary to a good player. State age and refs., CONDUCTOR, 39, Aglionby-street, Carlisle.

WANTED, Violinist, Lady or Gent., for cinema; open Jan. 1; 5 hours daily; no Sundays. Write or wire, M. D., 17, Paradise-square, Oxford.

WANTED, Violinist, Gent., good sight reader; pictures. No Sundays. MUS. DIR., Purple Picture Palace, Camberwell Gate, S.E.

WANTED, Violinist and 'Cellist (ladies or gentlemen) for out of town. Also Wood Wind Instrumentalists (ladies) for in town. Apply, MADAME MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet; used to variety; to open immediately. Terms, including two matinées, £2 3s. 9d. per week. Apply, SYDNEY L. HAMPTON, Regent Theatre, Salford.

WANTED, First Cornet, for two weeks, commencing Jan. 8. Write, stating lowest wages, to C. A. SEEBOLD, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.

WANTED, open at once good Clarinet and Flute; permanency to suitable men (ineligible) Terms and refs., A. MOSCROP ALLISON, M.D.

WANTED, Lady Trombonistes, for first-class Musical Act, well booked. Terms, with references, SHARP'S TROMBONEERS, Palace, Chelsea. Those known to Marie Walker communicate.

WANTED, 'Cellist; first-class player only; used to standard works and solos; £3; pictures, continuous; 3 o'clock; start at once.
MUNNS,
Gem Theatre, Gravesend.

WANTED, Lady Celliste, for Picturedrome, near Manchester; start Monday, Jan. 15 (permanent); only good artiste need apply; must be used to Tavan and Alder arrangements. Apply, with references, to M. D., 13, Trafalgar-avenue, Egremont, Ches.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, Lady or Gent.; 5 hours and 3 meals per day. Comfortable shop. Write or wire, R. D. CHEW, Musical Director, Grand Café, Hull.

HIPPODROME, CHELTENHAM.

WANTED, Wanted, 'Cello.
Apply,
LEON JESSE, Gillsmiths.

WANTED, for Imperial Picture House, Belfast,
open Jan. 15 or 22,
the following instrumentalists:—
First-class Flute and Piccolo (soloist).
Also Bassoon (flat pitch).
First-class Orchestral and Solo 'Cellist for same.
None other need apply.
Duties 5½ hours daily (No Sundays).
Permanency.

Essential state terms, particulars, to
MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
Ulster Cinema Theatres, Ltd.,
Cornmarket, Belfast.

WANTED Known, ABBOTT'S SCHOOL FOR ORCHESTRAL ORGANISTS. A thorough training given. All students play with the orchestra and are taught to play from 2nd Violin, 'Cello, and Bass parts. Every pianiste should be able to play the organ. Small fee. 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, for well-established Musical Act, a First-class
Tenor Vocalist-Pianist.

Must be ineligible.

Apply, stating experience, salary, &c.,

and enclosing photo. to

Box 661, "The Era."

WANTED, good Pianist, for Varieties and Pictures.
Apply, EDWIN SCARFE (Conductor), Canterbury Music Hall, London, S.E.

WANTED, Relief Pianist, Cinema, North London;

Must be good sight reader and capable of playing high-class music.

Address, with all particulars in first letter, to F. W. PURCELL,
Southside House,
Dalmeny-avenue, Tufnell Park, N.

WANTED, Experienced Pianist (male or female), for orchestra (café); 7½ hours; £2 10s. week. Apply, CLEMENT, Mackworth, Swansea.

HIPPODROME LEEK.

WANTED, Lady or Gent. Pianist, for the above theatre, to open Jan. 8. Particulars and salary to ALLAN MILTON, Hippodrome, Buxton. Letters addressed to Leek will be delayed.

WANTED at once, Orchestral Pianist, lady or gent., for fashionable seaside hotel; South Coast; must be well up in dance business; light duties; £2 10s. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 315, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W.

WANTED, absolutely first-class Orchestral Pianist, Harmonist, lady or gent. Evenings only. Good wage. Call Wednesday, between 11 and 1 o'clock, at Victoria Cinema, New North-road, Essex-road, Islington.

WANTED, Pianist and Violinist (lady or gent.) immediately. Must be first-class players with good exp. cinema work. Hours 3 till 10, no Sunday. Bohemia Cinema, Church End, Finchley.

WANTED, good Drummer; variety; open at once; A.M.U. terms. Apply, T. BOOTHROYD, M.D., Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, good Amateur Musicians to gain experience in first-class orchestra. Situations found when proficient. Apply, C.A., 50, Marlborough-mansions, West Hampstead.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, 'Cello and Bass, for variety and pictures; evenings, and one matinée Saturday. Also good Leader for Trio in provinces. Apply, QUEENIE HOWARD, 8 Churchfield-road East Acton, W.

WANTED, to Register, for Hotel and Café Orchestras, Lady Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, experienced in orchestral playing. Messrs. C. W. and F. N. BLACK, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Musicians unfit for general service or over age for the Band of the 4th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, stationed at Sandown, Isle of Wight. Apply, BANDMASTER.

WANTED, Band Boys (age 14 to 15), for well-known band of Line battalion (Regulars) stationed at popular sea-side resort; enlistment for nine years; excellent musical training guaranteed; fine opportunity for lads with knowledge of music. Please state full particulars regarding musical qualifications, with parents' consent for enlistment, to Box 645, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

West End Pier, Morecambe. Summer season, 1917. MISS VERA BOSISTO'S Orchestra of Ladies.

WANTED, all Instruments, please write in. 15, Burlington-road, Redland, Bristol.

WANTED, Trombonists, to tour with Musical Act; must be ineligible; suit discharged soldiers; permanency. State terms and age, SHARP'S TROMBONEERS, Palace, Chelsea.

WANTED Known, a few vacancies exist in the Band of a famous Highland regiment, stationed at its depot, for smart Boys (over 14 or under 16) who have some practical knowledge of the Cornet, Clarinet, Stringed Instruments, or the Pianoforte. An interview can be arranged by application to BANDMASTER, 36, Dewhurst-road, W. Kensington Park, London.

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WANTED, Musical Directors and Managers to apply at once to THE LONDON MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY. Overtures, Selections, Suites, Latest Popular Music. Music selected to suit all films. 200 testimonials. Send synopsis and 1s. for specimen parcel. The largest and best library in the world. ALGERNON CLARKE, Proprietor, 28, Lonsdale-road, Barnes, London, S.W.

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WANTED, Musical Directors to write for particulars of EASTON'S MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY; very moderate terms. "Elmwood," Atkins-road, Clapham Park, London, S.W. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

THE CINEMA ORCHESTRA.

Under the direction of MAURICE PIENA.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, including Pianists and Organists, desirous of gaining experience in Orchestral playing are invited to join above orchestra. Engagements when proficient. All particulars from SECRETARY, 13, Birchington-road, Kilburn. 'Phone, Hampstead, 7,245.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical Director, by MR. F. CAMP, Musical Dirrector, Dalston Theatre, London, N.E. Late Mus. Dir., Palace Palace, Walthamstow, 4 years; late Mus. Dir., Empire, Finsbury Park, five years; late Mus. Dir., Empire, Holloway, 5 years; late Mus. Dir., Gaiety, Birmingham, 8 years; late Mus. Dir., Grand, Hanley, 2 years. At liberty in February. Good offers only.

WANTED, Engagement, well-known Variety Musical Director, Violin or Baton, first-rate Leader. Highest refs. London or suburbs only. Disengaged after Jan. 20. Good library. Box 658, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Musical Director, experienced Panto., Revue, Dramatic, &c. 178, Victoria-road, Lower Edmonton, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement by First-class Musical Director, Pianist. Experienced and reliable. Good refs. Library. CONDUCTOR, 24, Anson-road, Southtown, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED Known, Wanted Known,
WELL-KNOWN ENGLISH CONDUCTOR,
WELL-KNOWN ENGLISH CONDUCTOR,
WELL-KNOWN ENGLISH CONDUCTOR,
of high repute now disengaged. First-class offers only; 20 years' experience in London Cafés and Cinemas.

For terms and audition apply
ABBOTT'S ENGLISH ORCHESTRAS,
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WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor, Leader, or First Violin; ex Carl Rosa, Moss' Empire, pictures, &c.; good offers only; A.M.U.; ineligible. VIOLINIST, 1, Jordan-avenue, Kimberley-street, Hull.

WANTED Known, Leader (lady), disengaged to-day; can read anything; any business; London only; would deputise. ABBOTT'S ENGLISH ORCHESTRAS, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violiniste-Leader and Pianiste, in hotel or café, Manchester or London; experienced; excellent references. 2, Berners-road, Wood Green, London, N.

WANTED, by Violinist, with good experience, Engagement as Repetiteur; evenings only; any business; must be in London or suburbs; thoroughly reliable. Wire or write, Box 659, "The Era," 35, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist, good Sight Reader, Engagement as Repetiteur; any business; ineligible. Wire, 45, Durham-road, South Ealing.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, brilliant leader and soloist; exp. Tavan, Alder, &c.; discharged from the Army, wants engagement; London or sub.; good offers only. Box 654, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First Violin, Quartette or Orchestra. Own library. Cinema or café. VIOLINIST, 28, Edge Hill, Plumstead, S.E.

WANTED, engagement, by experienced Violiniste (solo and orchestral); good references; disengaged Jan. 6; good offers only; would tour with Trio, &c. MISS YOUNG, at Birkham Dene, Woodlands, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist; experienced and reliable; London preferred; disengaged end of Jan. Address, VIOLINISTE, 97, Rumford-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED Known, Solo Violinist, expert Leader, also Solo Pianist (exempt); 3 years together; open for good offers; London only. Box 666, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Principal Cornet and Trumpet, also Principal Trombone, Pier Pavilion, Llandudno. At liberty Jan. 8, through closing Pavilion for winter months. Good offers only. Box 648, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Cornet, Engagement; evenings only; would deputise; ineligible. Apply, ORCHESTRAL, 56, Whitbread-road, Brockley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Second Cornet; experienced in all business; ineligible.
234, Knutsford-road, Warrington.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet and Double Bass (ladies). Well up in Variety or any bus. Evenings preferred. London only. Box 677, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarinetist; young, experienced; concert work or good cinema preferred; only good offers accepted; late Municipal Band, Hastings. Address, ARTHUR WEBSTER, 20, St. Thomas's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by Clarinet, ex-Army Bandsman 13 years' experience, also Cinema; splendid testimonials. A.M.U. member. F. H. MORTON, 22, Beadnell-road, Forest Hill.

WANTED, Deputising by experienced 4-string Bass; age 44. Afternoons only. Address, BASSO, 57, Gt. Cambridge-street, Hackney-road, London, N.E.

WANTED Known, at liberty. Thoroughly experienced Double Bass; undeniable references as to ability, reliability; ineligible for military duties. B. 649. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Double Bass; age 33 years; ineligible; good all-round experience; steady and reliable. S. C., 44, Rye Hill Park, Peckham Rye.

WANTED, Engagement by reliable, experienced Double Bass; any business; ineligible. BASSO, 39, Meadow-street, New Brighton Cheshire.

WANTED Known, Bass E-flat wants shop, pitching or any business; or would play Cornet. BAKER, 129, King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by Trombonist; any business; exp.; over military age. Not only address, 5, Giles-street, Longsight, Manchester. Join at once.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone and Euph.; summer or permanency; disengaged April 1. SCRAGG, Municipal Orchestra, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement by Trombonist, experienced in all business. Ineligible. HIBBS, 234, Knutsford-road, Warrington.

WANTED Known, eminent young lady 'Celliste, disengaged; absolutely experienced; solo and orchestral. Best offers only; London. Wire or write immediately, 26, Rivercourt-road, Ravenscourt Park, W.

WANTED Known, Lady 'Celliste, thoroughly experienced in Orchestra playing; at liberty for deputy work; London only. 170, Romford-road, Forest Gate, E.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist (Gent) disengaged for evenings; experienced.

Address, Box 656, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Lady 'Cellist, experienced, now Disengaged; good offers only. Address, MISS PULMAN, 2, Manchester-st., Manchester-sq., London, W.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist, thoroughly experienced Tavan, Alder, &c., desires change, high-class cinema. Could supply Trio if required. Box 665, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted Wanted
Engagement
by good, powerful, experienced 'Cellist
All classes of work.
London preferred.
Or Deputise.

Apply, Box 675, "Era."

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, now engaged in first-class provincial orchestra, desires change; any business; highest references. FLAUTIST, Box 655, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Flautist at liberty Jan. 15. Permanency desired. Any business. Address, R. S. BALLANTINE, 6, Albion-court, Wakefield. A.M.U. member.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianiste Orchestral, Solo, Accompaniste); thoroughly experienced in dramatic, variety, concert, and picture business; young, prepossessing. MISS JEAN GRACE, Verulam, 102, Kingston-road, Teddington, Middlesex.

WANTED Known, Pianiste (Orchestral), available for immediate engagement. Sight reader. Experienced reliable. PIANISTE, 5, Thornfield-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by experienced London Pianiste, change; Café, Hotel, or accompanying; no pictures; can provide Violinist if required; Brighton or South. Box 660, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Relief Pianist (lady) requires engagement, N.W. cinema, afternoons; thoroughly adapted to pictures. Apply, PICTURE PIANIST, County Hall, St. Albans.

WANTED Known, Orchestral Pianist, seeks Engagement in Cinema, Variety, or Café. Musical monologues. Terms by arrangement. Wire, WYNN ALLEN, L.R.A.M., 49, Porchester-road, Bayswater.

WANTED Known, Experienced Orchestral Pianiste would like afternoon or Sunday Engagements. London only. Write, Pianiste, 96, Silchester-road, Notting Hill, W.

WANTED Known, Pianist, young lady, experienced, disengaged, London or suburbs. D. DAVIES, 196, Rosslyn-road, South Tottenham.

WANTED, by Lady Pianiste, Engagement, hotel or cinema; thoroughly experienced. Address, PIANISTE, 19, West View, Highgate-hill, N.

WANTED, by Pianiste (Cinema), Young Lady, Engagement as Relief or Deputy; experience, 4 years. Apply, B. FRAZER, 33, Beacon-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianiste (Solo), Organist (Orchestral); disengaged; 6 years' experience; excellent répertoire; London or suburbs only. 25, Tregothnan-road, Mayflower-road, Clapham.

WANTED Known, Cinema Pianiste (relief); Lady desires Re-engagement; would deputise; Greater London. PIANISTE, 9, Kensington-gardens-square, W.

WANTED Known, Orchestral Pianist (late Delmontes' Symphony Orchestra, Liverpool) desires engagement with First-class Cinema or Café Orchestra; young and ineligible. Box 650, "The Era."

WANTED Known, well-known Pianist (ineligible) desires appointment, Pianist-Conductor, Soloist, or otherwise; highest references; splendid notices, &c.; Gold Medallist, &c. Address, PIANIST, Box 657, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Pianist (Gent.), trained performer, read at sight, good répertoire, used to orchestra. London preferred. PIANIST, 28, Powney-road, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Engts., 2 ladies, Flute and Clarinet, together. Known, experienced and reliable; any business. F. C., 97, Rumford-st., Oxford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED Known, 'Cellist, Violinist and Orchestral Pianiste, disengaged Monday next; high class and varied repertoire; also expert Relief Pianiste. Apply ORCHESTRA, Prince's Cinema, Bridge. 'Phone: 120 Chiswick.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, Wanted Known, Wanted Known, Wanted Known, FIRST-CLASS CINEMA ORCHESTRA, FIRST-CLASS CINEMA ORCHESTRA, at Liberty Monday, Jan. 15. Brilliant Solo Violinist-Conductor (an expert in setting music to pictures), Repetiteur (first) Violinist), 'Cello, Double Bass, Organist, Pianist. Excellent library of music. This is one of the finest orchestras in London, and can be heard playing in a first-class cinema daily. Address, W. T. GREENE, 18, Great Portland-street, W. Telegrams, "Waltzing, Wesdo." 'Phone, Central 11930.

WANTED Known, Ladies' Trio disengaged. Evenings only, London. Beautiful players, for pictures. Apply, with terms, to MADAME MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED Known, Quintette of well-known players available for pictures or theatres. London only. Address, MADAME MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED Known, MISS KATHLEEN FRYER'S Grey Ladies' Orchestra, Leader and Solo Violin, Obligato, 'Cello, Bass, and Piano; disengaged shortly; concluding 2½ years' successful engagement; any business; London only. All coms., 6, Ockley-road, Streatham. 'Phone, Streatham 1507.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, immediately, for Royal Italian Circus, India,

Good Speciality Act, with Ladies.

Must be new to country.

Address, with photo. and particulars, BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists in all lines for JOHN DUFFY'S Circus, tenting Ireland, commencing April 9, 1917. Good Animal Acts. Write all coms., JOHN DUFFY, Circus, Pembroke, Carlow, Ireland.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, the Latest Novelties and Best Money takers. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

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WANTED Known, have original Sketches, Duologues, Monologues (Dramatic and Comedy), to Sell or Let. Plays, Songs, &c., written to order. F. WARREN, 6, Cavendish-place, Grand-parade, Eastbourne.

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WANTED to Sell, quantity scenery, also revue scenery, dresses, script, baskets, parts, &c. "REVUE MANAGER," 11, Farm-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

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WANTED, to Purchase, Part Share of Revue or Pantomime; must have sole control of musical arrangements. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Box 652, c/o "The Era."

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WANTED, Flat-pitch Bassoon, cheap, Trebiet or any good make. Cash. 7, Sutton-street, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, 20 Second-hand Music Stands; about 8 to 10lbs. weight each. Price, &c., for cash to R. JENNINGS, 34, Knightland-road, Upper Clapton.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, "Woman's Past," "Soldier and Man," "What Man Made Her," "In a Man's Grip," "Girl's Good Luck," Frank Harvey, Mary Neill Dramas. WEATHERSBY, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, to Let or Sell, Complete Pantomime Productions. ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

WANTED, To Let, Two of the Finest Rooms in S.W. district; suitable for rehearsals, concert parties, &c. Apply, Loughborough Hotel, Loughborough-road, Brixton.

WANTED, to Let, Large Rehearsal Room, with piano; any time during the day; adjoining Leicester-sq. Tube. Tel., 4827 Ger. 9, Great Newport-st., 3rd floor.

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WANTED, Partner, with small capital, to act preferred, for entirely new sketch. Box 678, "The Era."

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WANTED, £100, by writer of three financial successes; every investigation courted to principals only, who wish to take advantage of coming peace boom. Write, Box 683, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, 20 to 30 Acts of all descriptions, for Dec. 26; 10 performances. Quote lowest in first letter. Write or wire immediately, FRANK BOYCE'S THEATRICAL AND VARIETY AGENCY, 45 and 46, Chandos-street, Charing Cross, London, W.C. 'Phone: Regent, 5529. Grams: Knarfoyce, London.

MIDLAND ELECTRIC THEATRES. Fourteen Halls on Circuit. WANTED, Variety Acts, Dramas, Revues with a plot. Full list bookings, terms, &c., J. POLLARD, Westhouse, Alfreton.

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HARRY BENET'S AGENCY. 3, Piccadilly, London, W. (First door, Shaftesbury-avenue.) WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Revues. Specialities, Star Variety Combinations. Pantomimes, &c. Principal Theatres and Music Halls. Immediate and onward dates. Lowest terms, full particulars. Our representative will see any show 30 miles radius of London.

WANTED, Variety Acts of every description, big or little. Send open time and absolute lowest terms (four shows daily). MANAGER, Panopticon, 115, Trongate, Glasgow.

MILNE'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 135, Wellington-street, Glasgow. WANTED, Specialities, Good Comedy Doubles, and Acts of every description, large or small, and new to Scotland and Ireland. Date sheet and lowest terms first letter. Acts wanting Ireland write.

KENDALL'S AGENCY, Regent House, Regent-street, Leicester. 'Phone, 4214. Telegrams, "Mascots, Leicester." WANTED, Acts, every description, for North, Midlands, South, and Wales, Monday, onward; Revues for Jan. 8 and 22, onward. All clients send full list bookings to date.

WANTED, Versatile Acts, all lines, for SCOTT'S ROYAL CINEMAS, Galashiels, Peebles, Penicuik, Dunbar, North Berwick, Linlithgow, Kilbirnie, and other halls of note. Immediate and future. MACQUEEN'S AGENCY, 81, London-street, Glasgow. 'Phone, 375, Bell.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND. WANTED, Novelties, Specialities, Juvenile Troupes, Spectacular Productions, First-class Singing and Dancing Acts, Big Comedy Numbers, &c., for the following dates: Jan. 15, 22, 29, onward. Address, with lowest terms, to MANAGER, Palace, Sunderland.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE. WANTED, Star Acts and Novelties, Jan. 15, onwards. Address, JAMES JACKSON.

WANTED, Two Expert Lady Swimmers and Divers, for tank show. Apply immediately to F. & H. REEVES, 331, Brixton-road, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, EVA WRIGHT, the Girl of the Hour. The most refined Comedy Male Impersonator and Wooden-shoe Dancer. An Act of artistic abilities. Agents and Managers, I thank you for offers, but this is not a £4 and £5 act. Everything has gone up, railways 50 per cent., landladies 250 per cent., food 1,000, baggage-men 4,000, tips 20,000. What is there left for me to buy hairpins with out of £5 for the dressing-room? This, Emp., Cradley Heath. Jan. 8, G., Hereford; Jan. 15, Pal., Clay Cross. Jan. 22, Empire, Mexboro'. March 12, Comedy, North Shields. March 19, S. Pal., Glasgow. Wire, p.a., 1, Albert-buildings, Camp Hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, and Jan. 15, by GERTRUDE ROWLEY, A.R.C.M., brilliant Mezzo-Soprano and Pianiste Entertainer; refined Vocal and Piano Act, introducing latest Ballads, Songs, &c.; great success last week, Town Hall, Nantwich. Wire offers to 149, Park-road, Barnsley, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next, and on, with exceptions, by TINA PAYNOLA, the unique lady mimic of Instruments, Animals, Babies, Whistling, quick-change, talent, refinement (comedy). Sole agent for South Wales, H. Zahl, 15, Edward's-terrace, Cardiff. This, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil. Wire (before 6). 19, Lower Thomas-street.

WANTED, Monday next by VIOLET LINN, the Girl with the beautiful voice and appearance. Great success, Imperial Palace, Canning Town (4th return). Wires, 2, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, by MAISIE COYNE, Just a Comedienne, Monday next, also Jan. 15, 22. Wire, Regent Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 8, by LOUISE VAN DALLE, Brilliant Soprano. Wire, 91, Fentiman-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED Known, SISTERS HULA, Comediennes and Expert Dancers, liberty Jan. 8, 15, 22, on. Wire or write, Picturedrome, Longton, Staffs. Perm., 14, Roberts-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Feb. 5, 12, by THE FLORADORAS, Screaming Comedy Act. Entirely different to others. Always novel. Sure draw. This week, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

WANTED, Jan. 8, 15, 22, MIMI and EVA LE CLAIRE, Refined Duettists and Dancers. Big success last week Grand, Peterboro'. P.A., 216, Brixton-rd., S.W.

WANTED, EILEEN and MAY TRIO, (3 ladies), Jan. 8. Charming Musical Act. Rousing Military Dance, 7 characters. Wires, Coliseum, Kettering.

WANTED, by ALFRED WHALL, Smart, Versatile Comedian, Monday next, also Jan. 15. Wire, Regent Theatre, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 15, and 22, HORACE MONTO, HORACE MONTO (The Original Versatile Soldier.) Presents "Tommy Atkins at Play." A Bright, Novel, and Refined Vocal and Musical and Dancing Act. Jan. 8, Princess Theatre, Werneth, near Oldham. N.B.—Concluded 13 years (Regular Army). Now Totally Exempt.

WANTED, Monday next, by MARCUS BOYLE, Comedian, with original songs and characters. Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich; or, 13, Foundation-street.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Versatile Comedian, HARRY BLAKE. The laughing hit of the bill as the Female School Inspector, &c. Address, Theatre Royal, Pontypool.

MR. HYMACK MR. HYMACK MR. HYMACK MR. HYMACK MR. HYMACK "AT BOGEY VILLA"

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 15, 29, Feb. 5. Address, Hippodrome, Rochdale. Next week, 18, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 15. R. T. CHINN, R. T. CHINN, in his Musical Act of Harmony, Comedy, and Novelties. Electric Fit-up. All coms., 4, Pearson-street, City-road, Cardiff.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 15, TOM YORKE, Character Comedian. This week, Gem Palace, Faversham, Kent.

WANTED, Monday next, BU-VAL, The Happy Dutchman, in Concertina-calities. Hippo., Cheltenham.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 15, by HUGH M'CUSKER and Cheeky News Boy, Singing, Dancing, Comedy. Wire, Pav., Heckmondwike, Yorks; or 19, High-st., Heckmondwike, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday next Jan. 8, also Jan. 15, Jan. 8, also Jan. 15, HARRY LUCK, Popular Comedian. Wires, Grand Playhouse, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Monday next, by ARTHUR HAYNES, Comedian "with the voice," to precede Argyle, Birkenhead (2nd visit). Wire early, Palace, Hull.

WANTED Known, PERCY CURRY, Comedian; liberty Monday; halls or pantomime. Wire, Albion House, Stockton Road, Sunderland.

WANTED Known, WULLIE DURKIN, Scotch Comedian. Jan. 2, Palace, Nelson; Jan. 9, vacant. Wire, wire, wire.

WANTED Known, SHANA and HAJAH, in their Novelty Act, Comedy, Singing, Dancing and Music; everywhere a success; last week, Palace, Islington. Write or wire for Monday next to 4, West India Dock-road, E.

WANTED, Jan. 8 and 15, by SILENT TAIT and AMEE, to follow Public Hall, Alexandria, Scotland. All coms. to Public Hall, Alexandria, Scotland. A Guid New Year tae a'.

WANTED, Monday next, by BENNETT and CONWAY, World's Champion Tank Performers. Wire offers to 70, St. Helier's-road, Blackpool.

MONICA DALY AND FRANK MARR, In Bits of Vaudeville. WANTED, Jan. 15, 22, 29 (Scotland or North). Act consists of Music, Singing, Talking, Acrobatic and Double Banjo Dancing. This, Olympia, Glasgow. Next, Hippodrome, Greenock.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 22, 29, by BARNARD BUNNY (and lady). Novelty Comedy Act, embracing Concertina, guitar and B. Bunny, the Human Cat. Wire, this, Olympia, Truegar; or house adj., 9, Park-ville.

WANTED, Monday next, also Jan. 15, by HEELEY and CRAWFORD, Refined Novelty Duo. Wire or write, 27, Rosary-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Jan. 1, 8, MARQUIS and TRULY, the Acrobatic Piano-Man, the Soubrette, and a Piano; Clever, Refined, Comedy Duo. Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Jan. 15, 22, and 29. AMOR and ROMA. Wanted, Jan. 15, 22, and 29. AMOR and ROMA. A cargo of singing and comedy. Ship scene. Original and Novel. Not eligible. Discharged from the Royal Engineers; 5½ years' service. Secure this Act. A sure success. For later vacant dates wire quick. This week, Regent Th., Chelmsford. House add., 19, Goldlay-road, Chelmsford. Next week, Coliseum, Burslem.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 15, 22 &c., FLORENCE CURRAN and ARCHIE MILLS. What we did and how it was done! Successfully followed Victoria Monks at Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, and played 22 minutes. Paragraph from the "Hastings Pictorial":—"Archie Mills and Florence Curran, in a smart musical comedy act, in which great versatility and originality are shown, Miss Curran being a splendid contralto, and Mr. Mills a clever comedian-composer." Wire, Palace, Warsop, Notts.

JACK CUNARD and SISTER, Real Brother and Sister. Both Dancers, getting laughs and applause. WANTED, offers, Midlands or Wales only. Exempt. Wire, Empire, Smethwick. Jan. 8, Workmen's Hall, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Jan. 8, 15, 22, by THE BROS. WEBB (Jojo and Ruté). World-renowned Comedy Musicians. This, Bedford Variety Theatre, Camden Town. Coms., 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, London.

ABEL AND WELSH. The Extraordinary Eccentrics. WANTED, Jan. 8 and 15. Wire, 10, Cleaver-st., Kennington, London, S.E. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next, by GROSSMAN and WINTERS, in mirth, melody and refinement. This week, Bedford Palace, Camden Town. Coms., 355, High-road, Chiswick. 'Phone, Chiswick 1147.

WANTED Known, FOUR AUBREYS and a Piano, Vacant Monday next. Wire, Colonnade, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Monday next, by the THREE PRAIRIES, in their North American Indian Novelty. Rag-time Singing. Buck, Wing, and Schottische Dancing. Grand finale, skit on Indian life. Only act of its kind. Own settings carried, and a big draw. Last week, terrific success, Victoria, Broughton. Wire offers, 12, Earl-st., Broughton, Manchester. Distance no object.

WANTED Known, the FOUR BLACK DIAMONDS, Quintessential, Droll Harmonising Vocalists. Quaint, Nimble Foot Terpsichoreans and Quick-change Artistes. Wire, Hippo., Ipswich.

WANTED, Monday, by HASSAN, Novel, Comedy, Musical Act. Wire, T.R., Winchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

Direct from America. The Great, the One, the Only Original Vivacious 40-h.p. ZARMO, the Comedy Star, The New Electric Scientific Comedian, Matchless Juggler, and Sensational Balancer of Peculiar Articles. The upside-down manipulator, acrobatic grotesque, quaint dancer, droll magician, top spinner, &c. The most versatile juggler extant, funniest man the stage has ever known. Two tons of paraphernalia used in the above feast of fun. One big blaze of excitement. Yells of laughter and thunders of applause right through the act. The early door attraction house packer. A gale of laughter everywhere. The big box-office winner. Six-sheet posters, throw-aways, &c., by D. Allen and Sons, Belfast. Zarmo's Equals are All Dead!

WANTED, Jan. 8. Share or cert. Wire, Hippodrome, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagements, Jan. 8 and 15, by THE CORRILLION QUINTETTE, THE CORRILLION QUINTETTE, THE CORRILLION QUINTETTE, THE CORRILLION QUINTETTE, In their Palace of Harmony. A Combination of Musical Ability and Spectacular Display, Delightful Singing, and a collection of unique instruments. (One ton of effects, clear stage only.) Wire, 31, Shean-gardens, Sheffield.

WANTED Known, MISS A. B. COOSHA (?); the greatest Close Bender in existence; rival of Serpentillo and all others; vacant Jan. 1, and on; a real novelty. Coms., AB. BENAIAH, 4, All Saints-road, W.

WANTED, Jan. 15, Feb. 5, 19, by the Famous ENARDO BROS., Great Italian Equilibrists and Gymnasts, in mid-air. Introducing a new, original and sensational Ladder Trick, shoulder to shoulder. A big success and sure draw everywhere. Proprietors, Managers, and Agents, if you want a real novelty, wire to ENARDO BROS. This, Regent, Yarmouth; next, Regent, Chelmsford.

The famous Sporting Acrobats, BROS. BABUSIO. The boys with the most original hat-to-hat entrance. The only head-to-head skipping and revolving wonders.

WANTED, Jan. 15, 22, and 29. All communications to Albert Theatre, Brighouse.

WANTED, Jan. 8, MASON and BART, Novelty Gymnasts. P.A., 97, Brixton-road, S.W. 'Phone, 2229, Brixton.

THE FAMOUS CRAGGS. BILLY. FRED LEON as Billy.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, Jan. 8, 15, 29. Wire, write, or 'phone to 68, Kennington-road, London, S.E. 'Phone, Hop. 3929.

WANTED, Jan. 8 and 22, between London and Leeds, by ATLAS VULCANA TROUPE. ATLAS VULCANA TROUPE. Wire, ATLAS, Gosford Lodge, Fulham.

WANTED, Wanted Jan. 8, 15. CHARD'S DOGS. Elite Theatre, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 8, 22, by FREDRICA'S COMEDY TERRIERS, Britain's best Comedy Animal Actors. Wire, Hippo., St. Helens.

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First Class Balancing Act, or Partner

Twelve Years' Experience, Excellent Credentials. Height 5ft. 9½in., Weight 12 stone.

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F. C. EASTER, 57, Artillery Place, Woolwich

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Jan. 15, to follow Chelmsford, S. W. BEAUMONT'S Comedy Sketches, "Sally Mine" and "Woman's Rights." This, Palace, Wolverton. Next, Regent, Chelmsford.

CARTER LIVESEY, in his original Comedy Creation, "AN AMATEUR ANARCHIST." As played at the London Coliseum and all the principal halls in Great Britain. Supported by Miss Billie Maxwell.

WANTED, Jan. 8, to follow Alhambra, Bradford. Bookings include Variety Controlling, Aston, Coventry, St. Helens, Regent, Salford, &c. This week, Alhambra, Bradford.

WANTED Known, "The Sketch Success of 1916." CORA DUNCAN and ALBERT BRASQUE still earning golden opinions, and, better still, return dates, with the greatest of Comedy-Dramatic Playlets, "SELF-DEFENCE." Written by the successful author, Denton Spencer. In preparation a novel and purposeful Comedy-Dramatic Playlet, entitled, "THE YELLOW SPIDER," By the same author. Managers, Press and Public alike affirm that "Self-Defence" stands out in bold relief against all other sketches in Vaudeville. Returns to the Granville, Walham Green, Jan. 8.

FRED SOLO AND CO., FRED SOLO AND CO., FRED SOLO AND CO., including the Original Solo Girls. Big success, this, T.R., Stockport. Next, T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

R. Nightingale's "Aladdin" pantomime.

WANTED, March, for Own Act or Revue, Musical Comedy, &c.

WANTED, Jan. 22, 29, March 12, 19, only vacant dates until Easter. "The Touch of the Child," Sketch. SINCLAIR NEILL, Playhouse, Wakefield; next, H., Norwich.

The Great Dame Scena. "GETTING THE DINNER IN." "GETTING THE DINNER IN." Written by John Brittain. Licensed and approved by the Lord Chamberlain. Own set; 3 people (ineligible); 15 minutes' original merriment. Fred Powell and John Brittain in their inimitable impersonations of two old ladies "GETTING THE DINNER IN."

WANTED, Jan. 15, between Newcastle and Oldham. Wanted, Jan. 15, between Newcastle and Oldham. Also Jan. 29, on. FRED POWELL, Queen's, Hollinwood. Next, Black's Theatre Varieties, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday next, JOHN F. TRAYNOR & CO., in the highly successful sketch, "THE WHITE MOTHER." Details.—Booked and re-booked by Messrs. Moss and Macnaghten, &c. This week, 3rd visit to Palace, Bradford. Own set. Clean, no pistol shots. Six-sheet by Allen. Suits every class of audience. Happy ending. Picturesque dress. Refer last five dates: Hippos., Ipswich and Norwich; Queen's, Poplar; Grand, Clapham. Last week, two nights, four calls at Regent, Yarmouth. Can play large or small halls. Vacant Jan. 8 and 15. Address (3rd visit), Palace Theatre, Bradford; or Agents.

Managers and Agents note. Stella E. Ray and Fred Bentley. WANTED, Jan. 15 and 22, precede Ferndale for "THE NIPPER'S BANK." The "Newport Argus" says: Acting superb. "THE NIPPER'S BANK." A good Top or Bottom. "THE NIPPER'S BANK." Wire, BENTLEY, Empire, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 8, by CON FOX and CO., "Father and Son," a Terrific Sketch, Empress, Brixton. Wire, Empress, Brixton, London.

Urban District Council of New Hunstanton.

To Let by Tender for MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS.

Separate tenders are invited for the hire for one year from the 25th December, 1916, of:—

1. THE LOUNGE.
2. THE BANDSTAND

on the Esplanade, at New Hunstanton, Norfolk, close to the Sea.

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J. C. WALKER, Surveyor to the above Council.

Council Offices, New Hunstanton.

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THIS widely-known and highly-popular place of entertainment, occupied by Mr. George Royle's Fol-de-Rols during seasons 1911-16 is, owing to Mr. Royle joining His Majesty's Forces, to be let for the summer season, 1917.

The Corporation is prepared TO CONSIDER OFFERS for the tenancy of the same.

For particulars apply to the BOROUGH ENGINEER, Town Hall, Scarborough. December 13, 1916.

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Well-known firm is open to negotiate for ADVERTISING CURTAINS AND SLIDES. Rights of Advertising Curtains and Slides. GOOD PRICES GIVEN. Address:—Box 651 THE ERA.

OWING to War Conditions, Advertisements must reach this Office not later than **4 o'clock on Tuesdays,** otherwise insertion cannot be guaranteed.

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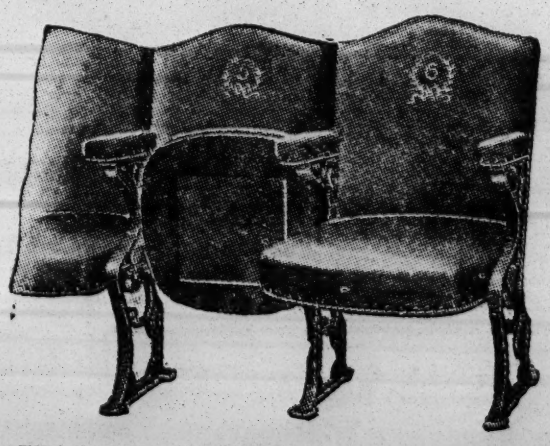

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1917.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE.—Deveraux's Dogs, pictures.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Yamagata Troupe, Holt Trio, Topsy Lee, Sados, Howard and Wyndham, Sibon's Cats, Pictures. Leslie Lynn and company in "Rogers."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Joe Collins' grand pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Romanesca Quartette, Pender's Nippy Nine, Clo D'Arte, the Two Canadians, Frank H. Fox, the Mezzettis, Pathé Gazette, Sinclair Neill's company in "The Touch of the Child."

PAISLEY RINK PICTURE PALACE (rehearsal, 6.30).—Wal Croft and Kathleen Naughton, in "Auntie Jeannie's Fur Boa," Little Venus, Flora McDonald, Pictures.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY.—The Great Raymond and company, Jack Clevoner, the Coenens, pictures, and company as booked.

WEST BROMWICH NEW EMPIRE.—Maitland and Ways' Grand Xmas Pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood."

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA.—Leicester Jackson and Charles Mepham company, "Her Little Bit of Heaven."

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Max Darewski, Hudson and Kirkby, Five Whiteleys, Dolly Elsworthy, Dorothy Storm, Arthur Stroud, Bioscope.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—Jake Friedman and Co. in "The Dutch Hussars," Harry Champion, Three Scamps, Shogun and Ryder, Bernard, Bioscope.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—Herbert Crump's pantomime, "Cinderella."

EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, Hudson and Kirkby, The Courtiers, Geo. D'Albert, Athas and Collins, McIvor and Scott, Florence Rattray, Bell Bros., Bioscope.

LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—Max Darewski, Harry Tate and company in "Fishing," Lucille Benstead, Stuart Hine.

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Takio and Namba, Japanese eccentric entertainers; Jenkins Bros., Terence Byron and Co., in "Wm. 'Enery's Wedding," the Three Scamps, the greatest of all rag-time piano acts, Morton and Bowman, Edgar Curtis, Joan Deering, Bioscope.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, Braham, Blow and Collins' company, "Peaches," Bert Coote and company in "Telling the Truth," Jock McKay, Frank Armstrong, Hanvarr and Lee, Len Teel.

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—L. Ephraim presents "High Life in Jail," F. Ginnett's War Horse, Geo. D'Albert, Reg Faze and Assistant, Maisie Rowlands Daphne Wynne in "Neutr?Allie-Ty," Fred Hunt, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 2).—Harry Burns' pantomime. "Dick Whittington."

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—Joe Collins presents the pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—Sid Cotterill and company in "The Substitute," Helm and Cozens, Godfrey Pariss, Ada Cerito, Waltina, Mabel Adeane, Bioscope, F. Sinclair and Partner.

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Pantomime "Cinderella."

CAMBERWELL EMPIRE.—"A Message from Mars," Bioscope.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Oswald Williams, Whit Cunliffe, John Donald, Halda Glyder, Lottie Lennox, Les Tourmilet, Cassie Walmer, Chevalier and Riego, Eddy Martin, Bioscope, Lena and Lewis.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Bransby Williams, Chas. Whittle, Joe Elvin and company in "The Holy Friar," G. F. Ford, Cassie Walmer, May Sherrard, the Four Kemptons, Bioscope, West and company in song scena.

CROYDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Burns' revue, "Frolics," Hilda Nelson, Thorn and Leopold, Thornley Dodge, Wee Georgie Harris, Bioscope.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Gertie Gitana, Sam Mayo, Dusty Rhodes, May Henderson, Paul Rocy, Woodward's Seals, Wells and Mayban, Goodfellow and Gregson, Bioscope, Victor and George.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11.30).—May Moore Duprez, Ernie Lotinga and company in "Josser," Coram, Tom Stuart, Page's Dolls, May L. Levey, Bert Harrow, Bioscope, Farr and Farrland, Spessell Bros. and Mack.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—London Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., pantomime, "Mother Goose," Bioscope.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Day's revue, "Eyes Front," Bioscope.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Farr and Farrland, May Moore Duprez, Fred Barnes, Dusty Rhodes, Lawrence Wright and company, Claude Golden, Marie Dainton, Manny and Roberts, Campbell and Scott, Bioscope, Jackson Charles Trio.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Chas. Austin and Co. in "Parker on the Panel," Vernon and Watson, George Gilbey, Hilda Glyder, Mlle. Zetta and Assistant, Lorna and Toots Pounds, Fitzgerald Girls, The Days, Bioscope.

THE PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Bransby Williams, Vernon Watson, R. G. Knowles, George Mozart, Ella Shields, Maidie Scott, The Two Bobs, Bioscope, May Henderson, Costa and Geo, The Dorinos, The Harmony Four.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Pantomime, "Dick Whittington," Bioscope.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Harry Day's revue, "Fall In," Nellie Ryan, Francis and Alfred, Dolly and Sam, the Mortons, Bioscope.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Mrs. J. W. Mackey's Co. in "Shall We Forgive Her?"

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12.30).—Maidie Scott, Joe Elvin and Co. in "The Holy Friar," Helen Moray, Cassie Walmer, Frank Lee and Sabbe Fern, Harry Brown, Harry Rogers and Co. in "Their Adopted Daughter," Bioscope, May Sherrard, Whidden and Kuming.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Messrs. Douglas Neil and company's revue, in "Goldman, Ltd.," Sam Mayo, Maggie Clifton, Kitty Gray, Allan Shaw, Bioscope.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Victoria Monks, Maurice, Geo. Gibbey, Jack Birchley, Evelyn Taylor, Syd Moorhouse, Haig Novel and Stopit, Vasco, Bioscope, Doddy Hurl.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Pictures, Mikado Family, Les Altos, Quaint Q's, Noland and Kiddie, Le More and Dog, Kitty Stewart, Constance Drever.

BRADFORD.—Pictures, Harlequinaders, Angel Blanco, Four Shades, Daisy and Her Eight Stars, Billy Riddle, Syd Keith.

BURNLEY.—Pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

CARLISLE.—Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

HALIFAX.—Pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood."

HUDDERSFIELD.—Pictures, Ryewodes Trio, Three Krakes, Tokiwa Troupe, Phil Kauffman, Kelly, West and Reed, Pauline Travis, Frank Foster.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Pictures, C. H. Charlton, Frank and Vesta Stanelli and Carrodus, Gaby Revette, Brenne and Erard, Barlow and Brooks, the Poppescus.

SOUTHPORT.—Pictures, Sammy Shields Will Hay, Gladys and Alber, May Denva, Phyl and Madge, Two Kortinis.

WARRINGTON.—Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

Rehearsal at all other halls at 12.

MOSS' EMPIRES.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Eugene, Harry McKenzie, 4 Kasracs, 4 Royal Scots, Donald and Carson, Ruby Heyl.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—May Starr, Felovis, Fredk. Culpitt, Leach Laquinlan, Jack Sterzelly, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Sugden.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Larrett, Ella Fields, Maro Duo.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 1).—Tom Payne and Vera Hilliard, Chas. Hart, the Kratons, Loie Conn, Maximilian the Great.

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Carol Nord, Agdar and company, Harry Bedford.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—St. Malo and Coombs, Doris Homan, Veda Le Court.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Rosie Reys, Niblo and Doris, Ernest Hastings.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Jim Nolan, Stella Stahl, Les Bastiens, Jack Lorimer.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—W. B. Raby, Two Tomboys.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Harold Baker, Morny Cash.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Flying Colours."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ida Barr, James Fletcher, Pasquali Bros., Will Van Allen, The Keystones.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Braine and Reeve, Belle Davis and company.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Georgetti, Pierce and Rosslyn.

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Takio, Paul Gordon, Haley's Juveniles, Jen Latona.

SOUTHEND KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Mongadors, S. W. Wyndham.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Les Videos, Dave Morris, "Hot and Cold."

STOKE NEWINGTON ALEXANDRA THEATRE (rehearsal, 11.30).—E. C. Matthews and company.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"To-night's the Night."

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Phil Ray.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Ike and Will Scott's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Lydia and Francis, The McNaughtons, George Carnell, Five Jovers, Duncan and Godfrey, Wilfred Burnand, Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—Pictures and varieties.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Bonaudo, Cooper Mitchell, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2).—"Jack and Jill" pantomime.

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Ida Long, Manny and Roberts, Nelson Jackson, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Winifred Ward, Laura Novea, The Romps, Shirley and Ransome, Ed. E. Ford, Swanstone and Hammond, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—The Junes, Fred Milner, The Q's, Nellie Wallace, Bioscope.

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.—"The Bing Boys Are Here."

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Vesta Tilley, Wilkie Bard, Joseph Coyne and Co., Beatie and Babs, Elliott Savonas, Rinaldo, Jean Vallier, Boganny's Comedians, Bioscope.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE.—Pantomime, "Cinderella." Cast includes Fred Emney, Ella Retford, Tom Foy, Edith Drayson, Brothers Egbert, Hal Bert, &c.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—"The Hula Girl."

NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 12).—"Fun and Beauty."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Kenna Brothers, May Hopkins and Co., Four Clovelly Girls, Winnie Denver, Murphy and Mack, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Vardell Brothers, Zolda and Freda Jensen, Dutch Daly, Trevor and Ware, Bioscope.

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Wilson Hallett, Martelloni Troupe, Thornton and Delia, Nevotti, Horatio Bottomley, Bunyea and Co., Delino, &c.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Halsey, Chris. Van Bern, Effie Mann, "Peached Eggs and Pearls," The Magleys, Mark Hambourg.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Gilbert Payne, The Slaters, G. T. Pattman and Co., &c.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Samples," &c.

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—"Cinderella."

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—"Paris to Maidenhead."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Hill and Whitaker, "She's a Daisy," &c.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"The Bing Boys."

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Florrie Ford's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Renee, Margaret Cooper, Rosco, Ko-Ten-Ichi Troupe.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Daisy Stratton, "In the Trenches," &c.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"All French."

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

Rehearsals at each place at 1 o'clock except Weymouth, at 12.

EASTON PALACE.—Lilian La Mont.

EXMOUTH PALACE.—Jack Williams.

PORTLAND MASONIC HALL.—Lilian La Mont.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—Company as booked.

SALISBURY PALACE.—"Symphonia," Elsie New, Hall and Menzies, Coquelli, &c.

WARMINSTER PALACE.—Jaskoe, the Lorellis.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE PALACE.—Irish Strollers, Bobbie Peeler.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Le Max, "Star of the Bazaar" company, Maudie Mack, Will H. Fox, company as booked.

WEYMOUTH PALLADIUM.—Pictures, and Jenny Pool.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Bonetti and Corrie, Leslie Grenroy, Minnie Moore.

ALBANY WARD'S MILITARY THEATRES.

Artistes booked include: Marie and Brown, Violin Jo, Dolly Richardson, Ivy Stephens, Desmond and Inman, Hyam Long, Sadie Barry, Lento, Dorothy Wayne, Leslie Barry, Charles Hatch, Doris May, Musical Boldens, Fred Preston, Keeble and Wells, Lewis and Little, Alice Gill, Two Pals and a Piano, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Fred Allandale's revue, "Heave O!" Tambo and Tambo, Griff, Hippodrome Pictorial Chronicle.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—Tom E. Hughes, Garadini, Charlie Bell and company, Tom Franks, Jenny Johns, Frank Maura, Hill Cherry and Hill.

AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—"The Very Thing" revue.

BATH PALACE.—Carl Hertz, Frank Silvo, Syd Sydney, Max Leon's Twins, Crawford, Johnson and Brewer.

CAMBRIDGE NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—Ching Wu, The Ketos, Hilda Lethwaite, Ragolia, Riche and Walker, Harry Drew, Foster Kershaw.

CHELMSFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Dare and Aldred, Snowdons, Kitty Jay, Four Storks, Cecil Brook, and company as booked.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.—E. Rolls' revue "Three Weeks and a Bit," Dalkeith, Monzo Trio.

DOVERCOURT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Le Hay and Irene, and company as booked.

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 1).—"Back Home in Tennessee."

GOLDERS GREEN HIPPODROME.—"Mr. Manhattan."

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Revue, "Come In, Miss," Kotchinsky Troupe, Les Marguerites, Rene and Eugene, Bing Girls.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—J. Brydon Phillips' pantomime, "Cinderella."

LEITH (EDINBURGH) ALHAMBRA.—Will Lacey, Bell-Hattons, Three Canadians, Norman and MacKay, Alma Le Dare, Len Lynn, George Prince.

LONDON CANTERBURY MUSIC HALL.—Percy Lyle and Douglas Raie, Roy Hicks, Frank Early, Scan and Stella, Dolly Lang, Pictures.

LONDON GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN (rehearsal, 2).—The Noble Four, Cissie Lupino, Duncan and Brasque, Lily Burnand, H. Flynn and E. Haynson, Fred Wilmot, Franco, Peggy Pryde, Emerald and Dupre, Gazette.

LONDON ISLINGTON PALACE (band, 12.30).—Stone, Irene May, Victor Courtney, Walter Lewis, Lily Essex.

LONDON SURREY.—Sam Springson and company, Magini, Nelson Hardy, Phil Rallis's Little Coppers, Belle and Betty, Mario Sabanoff.

LUTON PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Sisters Mestry, Henrietta and Selina, Henry A. Moore, Melford Duo, Winifred Ash, Rose and Calvert.

MANSFIELD EMPIRE.—Marquis De Gonza and Lady, Marlow Bros., Miss Dol Dyas' Vesper Violets in "Dreams of the East," Derry and Sloan.

MIDDLESBROUGH EMPIRE.—"Potash and Perlmutter."

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Spalding and Vangard, Molly Moore, Saxonica Troupe, Jaffa, Greenan and Poole, J. O'rac and company, &c.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—J. Bannister Howard's "Red Riding Hood."

PLYMOUTH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Sam Stern, Reece Duo, Fordyce Family, Great and Good, Wal and Rosa, Renny and Roxburgh, Five Wilburs Talbot O'Farrell.

READING PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES (rehearsal, 1).—Lew Lake, "They Didn't Want To Do It," Pathé's Gazette, Martin Henderson.

SALFORD REGENT THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—Morton Powell's Pantomime, "Beauty and the Beast."

SOUTHPORT PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 12).—F. C. Hennequin, Nixon Grey, Sisters Newton, Mareski, Witt and Butt, Redford and Russell, and Edris Coombs Trio.

TAUNTON LYCEUM NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Mr. Carl Frederick's pantomime, "Aladdin."

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—The Great Morritt, Eileen Wayne, Brothers Harrow, Cleos and Page, Charles Middare, the Naval Quartette, Zellini.

WIGAN ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Charles Windermere's "Ye Gods!"

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

HOUGHTON.—Mary Anne Houghton, the beloved mother of Erne Chesher, who passed away on Dec. 24, at 8, Fitzroy-street, Northampton, aged 86. Deeply mourned by her sorrowing sons, Fred H., Charles W., William J., George H., and Ernest J. Smith.

PAYNE FLETCHER.—On Dec. 4, at his residence, Carlton, Notts, Payne Fletcher, in his 70th year, after a short illness. Deeply mourned by his niece, Florence Baines.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADAMS.—In ever loving memory of our darling mother, Sarah Ann Adams (Cicely Nott), widow of Saml. Adams, Esq., who fell asleep Jan. 3, 1900. Ever deeply mourned by her devoted daughters, Ada Blanche, Edith Tully, and Addie Peacock.

ATKIN.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, John A. Atkin, who passed away Jan. 2, 1907.

CARROLL.—John Edward (Jack E. Carroll), 5th R.I.L. Killed in action Jan. 4, 1916, aged 23. R.I.P. "A brave soldier who did his duty."

AMUSEMENTS IN LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Having been more closely drawn together, and several alterations effected, the "Babes in the Wood" pantomime is now a jolly good show, and going along with a merry swing.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—The enterprise of the management here in engaging the Harrison-Frewin Opera Company for twelve weeks is having its just reward, for crowded audiences are the rule, three matinées each week being also given. In the present programme are included "The Barber of Seville" and "Rigoletto."

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles.—After a successful week of pantomime comes comedic drama, under the title of "The Light that Led Me Home," by Miss Gladys Hastings Watton. It is a play of deep interest, and finds good treatment at the hands of Mrs. Frank Bateman, William Calvart, John S. Jones, Harry James, Roy Jackson, Fred W. Goddard, Miss Flora Hastings, Miss Marion Vyner, and Miss Georgina Jones.

REPERTORY.—P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre Co., Ltd.—Both Christmas productions here, "The Palace of Cards," a fairy play for children, in the afternoon, and "Nothing New" revue in the evening bill—are doing good business, and deservedly so, for a deal of care has been shown in their production, while they are bright and enjoyable. The revue is particularly good, and meets with general favour.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners.—Here Mr. Albert de Courville's new production, termed "The Big Show," is enjoying great popularity, and will certainly hold the boards for some weeks. Excellent work is being done by the principals, especially George French, Jennie Benson, the Bros. Poluski, Harry Ray, Audray Sutton, and Elise Claire.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold.—Here a smart pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is being presented by R. Nightingale, Ltd., among the principals in the company being Clara Darrell (Dick), Gladys Jerome (Alice), Harry Rose (Fitzwarren), Mike Madden (dame), Aubrey and Crewe (comedians), Max Sylvene (Cat), Charles Wrangham (Emperor), and Lilian Gordon (Fairy Queen). Specialities are provided by Sinclair's Three Diamonds, Jubb and Jerome, Sisters Royal, Little Edith, and Dorothy Drury.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. George F. Slater. Under the title of "Quick March," Mr. Percy Henri is presenting a revue of a very laughable character, in which there are funny comedians, novel scenes, dainty dancers, and pretty singers. Among the principal supporters are Quetta Papucci, Ida Lincoln, Tina Aguzzi, Rita Brunetti, Dot de Veney, Billy Amstel, Mack Jollyboy, Will Cyrus, Fred Wilson, and George Brunetti.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; R. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The attraction is "Let no Man put Asunder," sent by Arthur Hinton, Ltd., a company which includes the authoress (Miss Gladys Hastings Walton), Miss Maude Morton Powell, Messrs. Jerrold Heather, Edward Vivien, and C. Milley Doyle.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James.—Good business is being done with "The Great Circus," which is drawing vast crowds every afternoon and evening. Jack Smiles provides plenty of fun as the clown, and Frank Van Hoven, "the dippy mad magician," is a huge treat, about whom everybody is talking. The playing by the celebrated Grenadiers' Band proves a special feature of the show.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan.—Mr. Harry Burns has sent a really fine company to present his new revue, "She's a Daisy," which, on Monday evening, gave big audiences supreme satisfaction. Dan Rolyat is foremost, helped by Leonard Lowe, Constance Worth, Kitty Dudley, Finnie Hearn, and Ethel Pearce, while Chevallier and Le Nour have some speciality dances. In the variety part of the programme are Harry McKenzie, a smart comedian; Regan and Celia, with xylophone act; and Falcon and Follie, jugglers and vocalists.

GARSTON EMPIRE.—P., Garston Empire Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Harry Barclay.—Here this week we are having John Lawson and his company in "Humanity," &c. Good business is being done.

Boots, The Chemists, Boots'-corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Ledge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential Buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street.

Miss Rene Ralph, principal boy in Mr. Charles Gulliver's "Mother Goose" pantomime, desires to thank through our columns all those who sent her congratulatory wires last week. She and Miss Haidee de Rance, principal girl, are among the best boy and girl turn seen for a good many days. This week the show is at Kilburn.

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Dance by J. W. JACKSON.

Produced by LAURI WYLIE.

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THE SMALLER ARTISTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—No one seems to have thought of th artisess, who are, so to speak, beyond the pale—the single and double acts who, off the main routes, can rarely, if ever, get the green ticket concession, and who will be worse off than ever. Could not some scheme be formulated whereby no artiste travelling for the discharge of his or her work should be made to pay more than at present?

Workmen and traders are, I understand, not to be affected by the new regulations. Artistes are bound, by the nature of their calling, to travel, and should be given equal facilities. In the case of dramatic artistes, too, joining a new company, this 50 per cent. increase in fares will prove a very great hardship, especially if the journey has to be taken, as is often the case, after weeks out. Production of contract of engagement might suffice to prove the bona fides of the artiste, and entitle him or her to a lower rate.—Yours faithfully,—

FRED BENTLEY.

WARNING.

My name having been used without authority to contract debts, &c., I hereby state that I have not at any time been a partner in any concern, nor am I likely to. Therefore, take notice that I will not be responsible for any debts contracted except by me personally.

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THREE STRONG CARDS

IN PANTOMIME AT THE

FRED ALLANDALE
(Photo by Bacon & Sons).

THE STAR.—"Edlin and Allandale as the chief comedians give something new in pantomime humour."

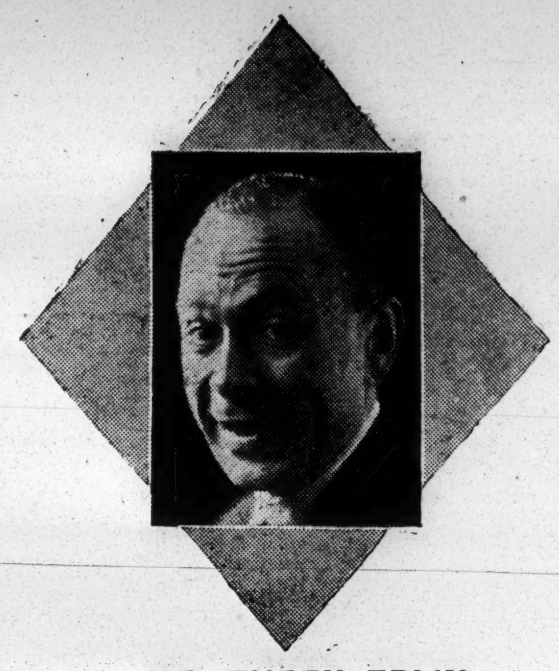
THE TIMES.—"Neither Mr. Edlin nor Mr. Allandale relies on knockabout methods to raise a laugh. They indulge in straight comedy, and the result is much more effective."

THE ENCORE.—"Maie Ash is charming and dainty as principal girl, and her rendering of 'My Mother's Rosary,' will be an outstanding feature of contemporary pantomime. Tubby Edlin is genuinely funny."

MISS MAIE ASH
(Photo by Langfier).

LLOYD'S.—"Mr. Tubby Edlin's new reading of a sort of Idle Jack is the quaintest thing conceivable, whilst Mr. F. Allandale gives an original touch to the bad man of pantomime by making him a really handsome, dashing sort of fellow, wearing his own hair and a dress from 'David Copperfield.'"

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.—"Miss Maie Ash, the heroine, Mr. F. Allandale, the double-dyed villain, again, understand the art of entertaining one as well as anybody can reasonably be expected to understand it; and their duet, 'Honeymoon Bells,' is what



MR. TUBBY EDLIN
(Photo by Claude Harris),

is known in theatrical parlance as a winner, whilst Miss Ash, in 'Mother's Rosary' strikes a sentimental note with emphatic success."

EVENING STANDARD.—"Miss Maie Ash is an undoubted favourite, and, with F. Allandale, is responsible for many particularly bright moments."

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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

In order to effect a saving of space the following abbreviations are used in these columns:—P.: Proprietor. M.: Manager. L.: Lessee. M. D., Managing Director. G. M.: General Manager. C.: Chairman. R. M.: Resident Manager. A. M.: Acting Manager. Asst. M.: Assistant Manager. Mus. D.: Musical Director. S.: Secretary. T.: Treasurer.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE.—P., The Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—The pantomime, "Little Boy Blue."

TIVOLI. — P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Gilbert. — The Great Como, illusionist; Louise Cecil, operatic soprano; King and Clarke, American duo; Borneo Gardner, entertainer; D'Arcy and Partner, comedy acrobats; Anna Rae, violinist; Ted Waite, eccentric comedian; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Neill.—Sosman and company in equestrian act; Pop Carson, male impersonator; George Prince, crazy comedian; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Accrington Grand Theatre and Empire Co.; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—The Grand Theatre stock company presents "The Cotton Spinner."

NEW HIPPODROME.—D. of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. T. Sutcliffe; A. M., Mr. Gerald Montgomery. —The Ten Loonies, burlesque musicians; Tom Purslow, operatic comedian; Maudie Kaye, comedienne; Moore and Philips, society entertainers; Marini, the Russian tenor vocalist; the Four Desmonds, comedy cyclists; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 89, 91, Blackburn-road.

ASHTON.

EMPIRE.—P., Wm. Henry Broadhead & Son; D. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—Jazon and Montgomery present "The Babes in the Wood."

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. C. B. Lowe.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is revisiting the Royal with W. G. Wills' play, "A Story of Waterloo." The poetic drama is staged and acted by Mr. Kelly's company, with its customary scenic attractiveness as a military spectacle. Mr. Frank Lindo, the popular actor-playwright, plays the part of Napoleon with all the force and mastery which the extraordinary personality of the great warrior demands. Miss Eve More is the Josephine, and she assumes a royal dignity which befits the character. Miss Violet Ellicott sustains the part of Marie Louise with distinction, and Miss Eveline Kington is Stephanie, and good work is done by Misses Marion Wakeford, Elsie Malley, Ethel Barlow, Blanche Robertson, Mary Jones, and Ellen Meadows. Mr. Jno. Davidson is a powerful Talleyrand and Messrs. Wingfold Lawrence, Gervase C. M. Hardy, R. Leith Innes, G. K. Ashley, E. Longford, Laughton Orme, and others must be credited with able portrayals of character.

NEW PICTURE PAVILION. — P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; D. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Miss Lindley.—Vera Lloyd and company; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 140, Old-square.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., North of England Theatre, Ltd.; M.D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R.M., Mr. G. Robinson.—Vaudeville turns, photo plays, and other pictures are proving popular.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Lessees, Messrs. Walker and Bennett; G.M., Mr. Arthur W. Walker; A.M., Mr. W. A. Smith, M.D., Mr. Edward T. Allen.—Return visit Mr. Gerald Mount's "Juvenile Premiers" in a miniature revuette, introducing vocalism and dancing; the "Rosary," with tableaux and organ effects; and pictures.

BARNSLEY.

EMPIRE.—P., Barnsley Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will Smithson.—Ventom Swift's company in the pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," with Randolf Sutton as principal boy.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Barnsley Theatre Royal Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—The play, "A Mother's Sacrifice," with Mrs. Will Casey as Kitty Pendlebury; Miss Florrie Kelsey as Lilian Robins, and Mr. Will Casey as Dicky Barlow.

ALHAMBRA.—P., The Alhambra (Barnsley), Ltd.; M., Mr. George Johnson.—Harry Russell's pantomime "Cinderella," with specialities by Madge Allen, Dorothy Vee Kemp, Scholey and Scholey, Lily Bell's Ron-Bons, Sisters Birtle, Bish and Bish, and Harry Russell as Pickles.

PAVILION.—P., Mr. C. P. Metcalfe; M., Mr. Walter West.—Good variety and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—Robert Courtneidge's company, in "My Lady Frayle."

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton, J.P.; R. M., Mrs. George Munro.—"Sinbad" is sailing into a popular success here.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—Topping the bill is the amusing Yiddish sketch, "Isadore, You Tell Her," in which Harry Rogers, Frank St. Clair, and May Davis are seen to advantage. The favourite comedienne, Queenie Leighton, is making her first appearance locally in her latest successes; Arthur Wilbey, comedian; Phyl and Madge, speciality dancers; Keen and Walker, comedy duo; Warwick, speciality artiste, also appear.

PUMP ROOM.—D., Mr. John Watton.—To-morrow the first of a series of British symphony concerts is to be given by the orchestra, under Mr. G. B. Robinson's direction. At the Saturday concerts the vocalist will be Mr. Spencer Thomas, the gifted tenor.

Boors, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-street; 56, Southgate-street.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Perci Leonard.—This week, twice nightly, Messrs. A. G. Hart's and Perci Leonard's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." Cast includes Gordon and Seal, the Keppels, the Roylatts, and Gordon Troupe of dancers.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Fred. W. Warden's twenty second annual "Cinderella," commenced on Monday the second week of its successful run here.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Fred. Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs. —Ernest C. Rolls presents here a superb production, entitled "Good Evening." The clever cast includes Tom Drew, a really funny comedian; Dorothy Lena, an accomplished comedienne; Hazel Alexander, Maisie Freeman, Leonard Fisher, and Sylvia Lea (the famous waltzers), Ernest Thornback, light comedian; Clifford Barclay (baritone) and Nellie Vardley, musical comedy actress. Mr. Station Taleman is a talented society entertainer; and Bank and Denny, in their gymnastic speciality, are also billed.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M., Mr. Vincent Potter.—Barney Armstrong's pantomime, "Cinderella," is achieving here a large measure of support, and deservedly so, as it is replete with humour, and possesses an exceedingly capable cast, headed by Madge Bilton, principal boy. Praise is also due to the principal comedians, Messrs. Williams, Warden, and Daimler, for their funny performance and catchy songs.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley. — Pueblo and Cropp, comedy artistes; and Bob Barlow, chorus vocalist. Pictures complete.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. James Burt.—Loch and Lomond, in character song and dance scena; and Stelling and Johnson, popular comedians and dancers. Pictures complete.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. James M. Poole. —A personal visit from Mr. Arthur Bourchier and company (including Miss Kyrle Bellew), in "Find the Woman," is a strong attraction. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw and Mr. Charles Doran are also conspicuous in the cast.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating.—An excellent holiday programme is supported by Nixon Grey, comedian; Tucker, the singing violinist; Fred Curran, comedian; the Nine Empire Opera Singers, including J. Alexander, Chester Kingston (the Chinese puzzle), Miss Jenny Johns, Welsh comedienne; the Three Renees, entertainers and dancers; Beryl Joyce, juvenile comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Frank Weston.—The Six Brothers Luck, in "The Demon of the Cellar," are renewing previous successes. An entertaining variety company also includes the Coombs Trio, in their musical act; Chas. E. Sherwin, vocalist and raconteur; and the Mandos, in their double whirlwind act.

Boors, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-road.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—The O'Mara Grand Opera Company, in "Carmen," "The Bohemian Girl," "The Jewess," "The Lily of Killarney," "Tannhauser," "Madame Butterfly," "Faust," and "Il Trovatore."

GRAND THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. G. H. Harrop. — Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard's company in "Potash and Perlmutter."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. G. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller.—May Erne and He; Gaby Revette; the Mazuziang Troupe; Linden and Berridge; Franco; Maro Duo; Flo Olivette; Lee Ephraim presents "The Meanest Man on Earth"; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 14, Market-street; corner of Church-street and Station-road, South Shore.

BOLTON.

HIPPODROME.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston.—A. R. Terrison and Miss Madge Fenton present "Come In, Miss."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—Joe Peterman presents "The Harem Girl," G. E. Carnell, Irene Dean, and Hill, Oberry and Hill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard."

Boors, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-st.; 139, Derby-street.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. Draycott and Hepworth; L. and M., Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth.—The Royal Carl Rosa Co.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. L., Mr. Francis Laidler; A.M., Mr. Frank Yearsley.—"Dick Whittington" has made an admirable start, and already gives promise of a successful run; the audiences are large and very appreciative.

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Philip A. Lennon.—E. C. Rolls presents "Three Weeks and a Bit"; Chas. Vincent; Cissie Cameron; and Carter Livesey and Co.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—J. F. Traynor and Co., in "The White Mother"; Winifred Ward; Mozetto; Mex; Edie Gray; the 5 Hollanders; the Miller-Sutcliffes; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 60-61, Kirkgate.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. Milton Bode's fairy pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," enters blithely on its second week, and continues to draw well, especially at matinées. Miss Gay Gordon is seen to great advantage as the Prince, and sings splendidly; Miss Adela Crispin is also an artist of winsome attractions and a delightful singer as Maid Marian; Mr. William P. Sheen brings a huge budget of fun to bear upon Dame Podgers; Mr. Clifford Morgan puts in excellent singing as well as acting as the Baron; Miss Nellie Sheffield has a part in which she revels as Sarah Jane; Mr. Chris Baker gives the true comedy touch to the Baron's page; Mr. Rolando Martin contributes good work as well as a highly humorous song as Tired Bob; the Real Mackays make a great hit as the Babes; as does Miss Joan Carol as a dancer; and Mr. Sam Ello and Miss Nora McCarthy are included.

PALACE PIER.—It is a long time since the Palace Pier hit on such a success as their original version of "Aladdin," written by Cayley Calvert, with music by Mr. Fredk. Pickard. Crowded houses have resulted. Miss Ida May Lane has scored a striking and complete success as Aladdin, and kindles enthusiastic encores, as do Miss Cone's dancers. Miss Winifred Linfield acts prettily and sings charmingly as the Princess; Miss Kathleen Marsh and Miss Marjorie Brandon contribute smart acting and duets as Pekoe and So Shi; Mr. Harry Taylor and Mr. Will Steers provide unlimited fun as Abanazar and Widow Twankey. There is a rightly described "beauty" chorus, rich scenery, costly dresses, and a harlequinade. Mr. Walter Drury is producer.

GRAND THEATRE.—Miss Bessie Burke here as Aladdin has won strongest support by her energetic acting and powerful soprano vocalisation; Mr. Sid Dean keeps his audience in roars as Widow Twankey; Mr. Harry Rousby is fully at home as Abanazar; Norman and Allan are particularly versatile knockabouts; and with an efficient company, gorgeous scenery, large chorus, and dancers, the pantomime is pronounced one of Mr. Gates's best productions.

WEST PIER.—"Her Husband's Wife," with the original scenery and dresses from the New Theatre, is presented by Mr. Charles Macdona here this week, the company including Miss Dorothy Stephen, Miss Edith Evans, Miss Maud Couper, Mr. G. H. Mulcaster, Mr. George Mallett, Mr. Victor Robson, and Mr. Henry Horne.

HIPPODROME.—Miss Margaret Cooper, with her charming songs at the piano, makes a pleasing impression here. The accomplished musical comedy actress, Miss Florence Wray, presents with great success the musical episode, "His Own Way," in which she has the support of Mr. Lewis Fielder. Dave Bryant, the versatile Hebrew humourist; Purcella and Ramsay in "The Lady Policeman"; the McNaughtons, with their whirlwind of fun; Joe and Willy, clever acrobats; Lotto, Lilo, and Lotto, the trick cyclists; and Haydn Wood and Dorothy Court are included in a generous bill. The last-mentioned presents the famous violin virtuoso, in collaboration with the Gilbert and Sullivan prima donna, with (at the piano) Marjorie Broughton.

Boors, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 17 and 18, St. James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee, Mrs. James Macready Chute; M. D., Mrs. Chute and Mr. John Hart; R. M. & T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D., Mr. G. R. Chapman. —"Cinderella" is attracting full houses, and the admirable and liberal staging is much admired. The four principal scenes, The Fairy Boudoir, The Departure, the Ball Room, and the Royal Conservatory, are fine examples of the art of the scenic artist, the three first being by Mr. R. C. Oldham, and the fourth by Mr. D. G. Hall. The colour schemes are artistically gorgeous, and the dresses most tasteful, rich, and beautiful. The artistes have all settled down to their respective parts, and the whole pantomime goes with admirable smoothness.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. William Phillips; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs. —"Little Red Riding Hood" is packing the house at each performance, the general verdict being that it is about the best and brightest pantomime ever produced here. Mr. Hamilton Baines deserves much congratulation on the admirable way in which he has produced the pantomime generally, and in particular on the care and attention he has bestowed upon minor details which are sometimes overlooked. Mr. R. C. Durant's scenery is all good and appropriate, the final scene, the Ruby Palace, a built-up scene of massive proportions, being an example of what can be done by a clever scenic artist. The company is good all round, and they work admirably together.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. Harry Raymond; A. M., Mr. Edward Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—Heading the bill here are the Elliott Savonas, who present their fine musical entertainment in "The Palace of Orpheus." Other attractions are J. Francis Dooley and Corinne Sales, in their comedy duologue, "Will Yer, Jim?" Those Four Kids, in a razzle-dazzle; Adam Tomlinson, dialect comedian; Allan Shaw, "the moneymaking wizard"; Fred Sylvester and company, hand balancers, &c.; Woodward and Page, in a comedy speciality; and De Busse, with his novel piano-accordion. "War in Pictures" concludes.

EMPIRE.—L. & W., Mr. Sid Macaire; Mus. D., Mr. Bert Hunter.—Harry Day is preceding a new edition of the successful revue, "Shell Out!" The company is a strong one, including Esta Stella, Ambrose Thorne, J. C. Piddock, James Davis, Dorothy Vernon, Constance Garrett, Reg Beaumont, Florence Williams and Lottie Stone's "Shell" Girls. Variety turns are provided by Dan Filmer, comedian; and Ruff and Gable, comedy artistes. "The Topical Gazette" is also included in the entertainment.

Boors, The Chemists, 13, Queen's-road; 9-10, Wine-street.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens, Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and matinée, J. T. Hey's No. 1 company in "Hindle Wakes."

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—Lil Lilian, comedienne and juggler, double turn; and pictures.

THE PICTURE HOUSE.—P., The Midland Electric Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Geo. Taylor.—Continuous exhibition daily.

Boors, The Chemists, 46, 48, 50, Spring-gardens.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE. — Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford.—The pantomime is doing good business here, and a great success has already been made. Miss Lily Vine as Dick Whittington and Miss Billie Brown as Alice are quickly becoming fast favourites, while the rest of the company are not far behind.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. C., Mr. C. T. Hutchison.—Miss Camille Clifford, the immensely popular Gibson girl, is appearing in a new act, entitled "The Girl of the Future," assisted by Mr. Edgar Stevens and Mr. Tripp Edgar; Miss Nellie Wigley in new songs; the Four Kasracs, in a strenuous knockabout acrobatic show; George Schreck and Mabel Percival, in a most amusing turn; Nevetti, the Westwoods, Phil Ray, and Fred Poplar are also in the bill.

Boors, The Chemists, 36, Queen-street; 51, Albany-road; 118, Cambridge-road, Canton.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Chas. Gadsby and Sons; L., Mr. Chas. Gadsby; B.M., Cr. Hy. Masterman, J.P., C.C.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris, Miss Ray Parry and company are playing "John Barrett, Millionaire," and "Moths."

QUEEN'S VARIETIES.—P., The Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M.D., Mr. Will H. Emerson.—The Naval Quartette, vocalists; De Busse, piano accordian; the Artois, gymnasts; Siemo; Eugene, acrobatic dancer; and Ella Fields.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. C. Lionel Cole.—Mr. Harry L. Osmond's "Goody Two Shoes."

EMPIRE.—P., Coatbridge Picture House, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry Lucas.—The Mexican Wonders, stock whip manipulators; Harold Robson, the dancing musician; Salamonsky Swar, bird imitator; and pictures.

COLCHESTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Hippodrome, Colchester, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Wm. Russell.—The Regent Pantomimes present "The Babes in the Wood."

Boors, The Chemists, 48, Long Wyre-st.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. R. A. Beaton; Mus. D., Mr. Neville Clifford.—Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company in the pantomime "Dick Whittington."

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—L., Productions (Croydon), Ltd.; M., Mr. E. Leslie Conroy; Mus. D., Mr. Max Whitaker.—Mr. N. Carter Slaughter's company in "Dick Whittington."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Gilbert Smith.—Gus Elen, Liane D'Eve, Cooper and Lait, the Harmony Four, Helen Moray, Lottie Lennox, Chevalier and Riego, pictures, and the Days.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, George-street; 42, 44, North-end.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Mackereth.—"Hobson's Choice" is a big attraction, with excellent acting by Peggy Doyle, Chris Vincent, Evelyn Grey, Horace Booth, Ernest Bodkin, Lilian Deane, J. Sibley-Hicks, Jefferson Gore, James Stevenson, Dorothy Lawrence, Frank McClellan, and W. S. Hartford.

HIPPODROME.—L., Signor Pepi; R.M., Mr. Bull.—Tom Seymour presents a fine company in the revue, "Rosebuds," the principals being Chas. E. Paton, Amy Brownson, Dan Cribb, Bertha Brandelle, Dolores Deen and Ethel Green, also the Leonart Quartette, and Valerie and West, speciality dancers. Good turns are given by the Ketos, comedy eccentrics; and Warriner, violinist.

Boors, The Chemists, 28, North-gate; 11, Blackwell-gate.

DARWEN.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M., Mr. Harry Holden.—Francis and Alfred, comedy jugglers; Emilie Tait chorus vocalist; J. B. Whittington, Irish comedian; Slippere, blind en-

FRED LE CREN'S

SHE SLIPPED

THE BEST FARCICAL COMEDY REVUE ON THE ROAD.

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tertainer; Bros. Harrow, juvenile gymnasts; Warwick and Otis, in burlesque; pictures.
Boors, The Chemists, 10, Market-place.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. S. E. Prance; A. M., Mr. W. Harper.—A high-class variety bill is headed by Garandini, actor musician; Harry Lamore, the well-known versatile comedy entertainer, is another strong attraction; the Stowe Brothers introduce plenty of novelty into a smart equilibristic turn; Ethel Castaldini is a cultured soprano vocalist; Emerald and Dupre are on a return visit with their amusing army skit, "Billeted"; Bella Mora, Scottish comedienne, has some good numbers; Thornton and Delia present a very uncommon vocal and instrumental entertainment; and pictures complete.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Cameron's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Jean Schwiller, the Anglo-Russian 'cellist and company in "The Dream Picture"; Harry Bradshaw, Yorks vocalist; Tom Burton, comedian; Three Osrams, wooden shoe dancers; The Willows, speciality act; Dick Ward and Partner, burlesque cycling and scratch race; Will and Dot Netter, in new style of comedy; and pictures.
Boors, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—Mr. Walter Howard's company in "The Story of the Rosary."

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North. — Messrs. Braham, Blow, and Collins present the burlesque, "Brides." Cast includes Fred Hastings, Florence Steventon, Harry Borrett, Alice Malkesta, Kenneth Gordon and Billie Bell. Archie O'Neill the one-legged dancer; Jaffa, comedy conjurer; Billy Vardell and Partner, featuring the sensational chute trick.
Boors, The Chemists, 71, French-gate.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. P. Howard Sturfess; M. C., Mr. C. C. Hill.—Twice nightly. The Four Silvios, comedy acrobats; Lilian Rosebery, in comedy playlet, "Only Acting"; the Three A-Ya-Me's, in Japanese dancing and triple high-ladder act; Charles Craston, comedian; Hilda de Grey, versatile chorus singer and ideal "boy"; Ettie Osborne, comedienne and dancer; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer.

KING'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Harry Day.—Pictures. To appear at all sessions, Pte. G. V. Frith, coon comedian.
Boors, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-street.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — M., Mr. C. Hyland.—"Hump-ty Dumpty" has become an established favourite here. Miss Clara Beck, principal boy, has made a distinct hit, her singing of "Fancy You Fancying Me" and "It's a Long, Long Way to My Home in Kentucky" being one of the features of the pantomime. Miss Renee Rael, principal girl, is undoubtedly one of the most graceful and natural dancers seen here for some time, her singing of a novel little number, "If I Could Only Say in French" receiving double encores nightly. Brock's speciality troupe of cyclists, introducing weird and novel cycles of every description, is one huge scream of laughter whilst they occupy the boards. The comedians one and all have "made good," especially Mr. Walter Dale (the Dame), and Mr. Syd Crossley (King Musty Fusty), their amusing skit, "Papering a Room," causing much amusement. Percy Korah and Boys are really clever dancers, and meet with much success. Mr. Bert Godfrey, as Billy, and Mr. Eric Dudley, as Jarvis, add much to the fun of the pantomime.

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton.—Judging by the enormous success of "Robinson Crusoe," the management of the Royal are bound to make pantomime an annual affair here. The songs are up to date, the comedy work excellent and free from vulgarity, and the scenery and effects really fine. Mabel Osborn, as principal boy, has a fine stage presence and sings well, her best number being "The Roses Have Made me Remember." Miss Olive Sloane makes a charming principal girl. Phil Lester (Dame), Harry Angers (Billy Crusoe), Henry Lowman and William Lowe (Captain and Mate) are the responsible comedians, who keep their audience in right merriment throughout. The Eight Marigny Girls, in original dances, add much to the success of the show. A special matinée is to be given to-day, to which wounded soldiers and sailors have been specially invited.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. B. Armstrong; M., Mr. A. Armstrong.—Mr. Barney Armstrong is to be congratulated on the enormous success of "The Babes in the Wood," one of the most successful pantomimes seen here for some time. As Robin Hood, Miss Madge Clifton has won numerous admirers, a dashing stage presence, coupled with a pleasing voice, which she uses to the best advantage, being the secret of her wonderful popularity, her singing of "I've Tried to be Good, But the Girls Won't Let Me" has "caught on," the audience joining her in the chorus each time. Miss Raie Walters, principal girl, makes a charming heroine, and sings "You'll Always be the Same Sweet Baby" with much taste and expression. Messrs. Cullen and Carthy and the Wee Fellow are clever comedians, their work throughout being distinctly original and amusing. Mr. George Benson, the Baron, has few equals as a clever mimic of well-known comedians. Mr. Cliff Berzac's circus scene is one of the strongest features of the pantomime, being a distinctly novel and original addition to the piece, and coming in for much applause. Other artistes who add much to the success of the pantomime are Misses Florrie Hayes and Ursula Gold, the Babes. Miss Gwennie Harcourt (Bridget), Misses Dolly Cullen and Muriel Leslie, as Allan a'Dale and Molly, Master John O'Brien, the young Dublin tumbler, as a clown, and the Eight Empire Girls, troupe of dancers.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—M., Mr. C. F. Wright.—"Dick Whittington" continues its successful run here, the house being packed to the doors at each performance. Miss Marion Broom, principal boy, has some good songs, which she renders in a pleasing manner. Miss Leslie James, a winsome principal girl, has won many admirers, her singing of "A Broken Doll" in the first act and her rendering of a pleasing violin solo later on being exceptionally good. Horace Wheatley, as Fitzwarren, renews his pantomime successes, his singing and dancing turns being heartily appreciated. Mr. W. J. Churchill, as Idle Jack, is a versatile comedian; he is well supported by Joe Huda, the Dame, their original burlesque minstrel entertainment causing much merriment. In the Misses Lucille and Stella we have two dainty and clever comediennes and dancers. Messrs. Palles and Cussick, Captain and Mate, are distinctly funny, their comedy boxing turn convulsing the house with laughter. Barrie Gilmore makes an agile cat, his funny little ways and clever dancing being worthy of much praise. F. Durand, as the Emperor, is possessed of an excellent quality baritone voice; his singing of "The Bandolero" is encored nightly. Special mention should also be made of the Russell Girls, in speciality dances.

ABBEY THEATRE. — M., Mr. J. Augustus Keogh.—Mr. Wm. Boyle's successful comedy, "Nic," is playing to crowded houses; it is preceded by Lord Dunsany's one-act play, "The Glittering Gate."

TIVOLI THEATRE.—M., Mr. C. M. Jones.—A tip-top variety bill is headed by Hamlin and Mack in song, story and dance, another good turn being that of Lee and Kingston, in a novel comedy act. Included on the programme are Maisie O'Connor, comedienne; Billy Rogers, comedian; Violet Gwynne, vocalist; Bryant and Bryant, electric manipulators; David and Allen, comedy speciality act; and the Burtons, vocal duo, complete a first-class show.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Licencee and M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. W. Ramsay; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's principal company in "The Arcadians," which has constituted the Christmas and New Year attraction at this house, is playing to capacity business at all performances. The annual pantomime, "Boy Blue," will be produced on the 8th inst.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. and Licencee, Mr. W. Firth; M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. F. H. G. Hughes.—Topping a strong all-round holiday bill here is the popular Lancashire comedian, Morny Cash, whose success is unequivocal; Alfredo, the vagabond violinist, proves a huge favourite; Ethel Fenton, the young contralto, receives an ovation quite in keeping with the excellence of her turn; Takeo and Koma Namba are clever Japanese eccentric entertainers; the Kavanaghs, in their comedy juggling act, provide capital entertainment; Will Lacey, the cycling comedand the latest war films complete.

PALACE PLAYHOUSE.—Licensee, Mr. J. J. Bennell; M. Mr. Jas. Currie; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy. — A strong holiday programme includes the Keystones, presented by M. C. Bert, in their whimsical and clever cycle act; Fred Ginnett presents Poppy Ginnett and company in the amusing episode, "The Riding Lesson"; the Three Littlefields appear in a pot-pourri of juggling, hoop rolling, and wire acrobatics; the Gordon-Inglis Trio, in their musical act, provide an artistic vocal treat; Milly and Gordon Trio, in a novel singing and dancing speciality, find much favour; May Melvin, a dainty soubrette and dancer; Neil Melvin, an entertaining comedian, and Pathé's Gazette complete.

VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE. — P., Victoria Palace Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Sole D., Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and Stanley Rogers; Mus. D., Mr. W. Hartley.—The New Year attraction here is the musical comedy revue, "In the Pink," presented by Mr. Harry Korris, a comedian who is a host in himself. Among the other prominent artistes are Rita Dilston, Flora Fulthorpe, Connie Emmerson, Harry Vardon, Harry Trevor, Thomas Varley, Rube Walman, and the Musical Newall's, whose interlude is quite a feature of the show.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson.—Will Hawthorne, a popular Scotch comedian; Trillo, a ventriloquist and mimic of more than average cleverness; and pictures fill the bill here.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh.—The Sisters Melville, vocalists and dancers, supplement a strong picture programme here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Joe Bell.—Special pantomime pictures are proving seasonable fare here.
Boors, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—George Dance presents "Potash and Perlmutter in Society."

PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. G. Hayes.—"Peg o' My Heart," though on a first visit to this theatre, returns to the town of its English birth. Macdonald and Young present the piece, with Nancy Mortimer as the wayward heroine.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. Charlie Cooley.—Rose Coombs, (Babe) Wilford, Austin Temple, assisted by Miss Irene Vincent, George Riley, Wylie, Mlle. Zampa, Sam Springson in "The Heart of a Jew," and bioscope.

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDENS.—M. & S., Mr. Edgar Allan Brown.—The Devonshire Park Orchestra; musical director, Mr. Norfolk Megone. Vocalist, Reginald Crawford. In the Pavilion, "Charivari."
Boors, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex gardens; 6, Seaside.

EDINBURGH.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—A new edition of Fred Karno's whimsical revue, "All Women," forms the chief feature of this week's holiday bill. The entertainment is attractively presented by an admirable company of lady performers, the cast including Christina Roy, Betty Balfour, Aubrey Stafford, Nettie Scudamore, Florence Smithers, and the Sisters Sprightly, supported by a platoon of the Women's War Work Emergency Corps, who fill all the male rôles, Miss Emmie Thomas having direction of the orchestra, and Miss Gore Queeley filling the post of manageress, with Miss Irene Marston in charge of the stage. In addition to the revue the Two Tomboys give a clever comedy humpsti-bumpsti turn; Eri Thompson, the New Zealand contralto, secures a most cordial reception; and Johnson Clark scores all round as a sportsman ventriloquist.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—P., The Folkestone Pleasure Gardens Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. C. Potter. — The George Edwardes company in "Betty."
Boors, The Chemists, 12, Rendezvous-st.; 61, High-street.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — P., The Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—Henry F. Cornforth and company, in "Puss in Boots."
Boors, The Chemists, 192, High-street.

GOOLE.

COLISEUM.—L., Mr. B. Firth.—Mr. J. W. Darnley's company in "The Duke of Dairyland."

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—The New Year attraction here is provided by Messrs. Henry Dallas and Louis Passon's company in the popular musical comedy, "The Marriage Market." Cast includes: Messrs. Victor Kerr, Joe Spree, Walter Adams, Bertram Williams, Tom Squire, Martin Ross, L. M. R. Phillips, Barry Stoop, Louis D. Cash, Lawrence Luke, Jack O'Shea, Misses Beatrice Willey, Maud Denny, Dorothy Boughey, W. Valentine, Vera Dale, Gracie Kerr, Marjorie Aimes, Violet Gordon, and Dorothy Westall.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company are making their first appearance here in "Tina." A very strong cast includes William Whitlock, Percy Cahill, Frank Nolan, Derwand Lely, junr., Ernest Stone, Maud Lake, and Florence West.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton.—The popular pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. De Lacy's company. Lili Carr, Elsie Lytton, Elsie Fletch, Doris Eldridge, the Sisters Florence, Fred Rogers, Arthur Stanley, Geoff Holmes, F. F. Lloyd, Stanley and Hart, and Wm. De Lacy make up a first-rate cast.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Palace Theatre, Ltd.; M., Mr. E. O. Waller.—The Mikado Family head a good bill here, and are supported by the Miles Stavordale Quintette, Seven Le Roys, Paul Kauffmann, Pauline Travis, Carson and Bryan, and Nell Wynne.
Boors, The Chemists, 1, Cornmarket.

HANLEY.

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; M.D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—A good bill is headed by Farr and Farland in humorous duologue; also appearing are Mlle. Margo, the mirthful mystic, in a remarkable series of ocular deceptions; Gaston Morel and a Street Lamp; the Jovers, Spanish acrobats and gymnasts; Will Collinson in "'Enery's Holiday"; Monro Trio, acrobatic comedy cyclists; and Fred Cary, comedian.
Boors, The Chemists, 24 and 26, Piccadilly.

HARTLEPOOL.

PALLADIUM.—Leesce, Mr. Thos. Thompson; M., Mr. J. Clarke; Mus. D., Mr. Bert Bertram.—Selby's Juveniles, in music, comedy, song and dance; Nancy Marise soprano; R. T. Chinn, concertina soloist; Fryer, acrobatic comedian; and Trumpeter Duly, assisted by Florence D'Arcy.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scott; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," including the Eight Meridians, the Selbinis, Mr. Murray King, Mr. George Grogie, Miss Daisy May, Miss Kay Blake, &c.
Boors, The Chemists, 17, 18, 19, Robertson-street; 61, George-street.

HEREFORD.

KEMBLE THEATRE.—M., Mr. E. Stanton Jones.—A fine variety bill is headed by the Six Royal Crests in a Scotch and gipsy scena, who meet with a cordial reception; other turns comprise Tom Reno, a smart patter comedian; Thornbury, lightning artist and entertainer; Charles Ulrick and his giant barrel; and Crawford, Johnson and Brewer, comedy instrumentalists and dancers, all of whom meet with hearty approval; pictures conclude.

NEW GARRICK THEATRE.—P. and M., Mr. R. A. Maddox.—Mr. Carlton Fredrick's pantomime, "Aladdin," is the attraction here.
Boors, The Chemists, 28, High Town.

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—Fred Karno's revue, "Hot and Cold"; George Logan; Arthur Hayes; and the Four Royal Scots.

TIVOLI.—L., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby; G. M., Mr. G. W. Ashton.—Hayman and Franklin present "Fads and Fancies"; Geo. Crowther, Rosco, and Costa and George.
Boors, The Chemists, 10 and 12, King Edward-street.

ILKESTON.

COLISEUM.—P., Ilkeston Coliseum, Ltd.; R. M., Mr Cresford Garton, LL.D.; A. M., Mme. L. Garton. — Fuller Allen presents "Eliza Comes to Stay."
Boors, The Chemists, 121-124, Bath-street.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. Eugene C. Stafford.—Miss Lena Stanton's company in the pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," including Miss Stanton, Miss Anna Kemp, the Sisters Pink, Miss Millie Rouse, Messrs. Charles Neville, Marcus Boyle, James May, Bobbie Gray, Moss and Banks, and Gus Ern. Specialities by the Sisters Pink, the Edingale Trio of acrobatic dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock. — Arthur Watson's company in "Sprouts," including Miss Flo Stanley, Messrs. Barlow and Brooks, Zona Milroy and company, Syd May, Albert Darnley, the Four Black Diamonds, and the Wonderful Poppescus, Bioscope.
Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM. — P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—Sophie Forrest, Billy Wills, Hilda Dawson, and the Eileen and May Trio.
Boors, The Chemists, 31 and 32, Market-place.

KIDDERMINSTER.

KIDDERMINSTER OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. R. C. Gudgeon.—Bromley Challenor in "When Knights Were Bold," supported by an excellent company.
Boors, The Chemists, 7, High-street.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite.—Mark Blow presents "Oh! I Say!"
Boors, The Chemists, 36 and 38, Penny-st.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner.—The favourable opinion formed of Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's pantomime, "Jack and Jill," has been fully justified by the receptions accorded it by delighted audiences. It is a thoroughly attractive and bright show; and Miss Vera Wray, Miss Bertha Wendley Russell, Mr. Fred Holt, Mr. Clarence Ibbotson, Miss Nellie Ransome, Miss Elena Sevesi, Mr. Harry Field, and Miss Jose Hammersley vie with one another in making the performance the success it has achieved. Miss Irene Pascova is a delightfully clever and smart dancer, who is heartily applauded; and the troupe of juveniles, under Mme. A. Victor, are popular favourites, their various dances being accomplished in a manner that denote a most careful training.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole L. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; A. M., Mr. Geo. F. Warwick.—An excellent attraction is provided here by Francis Daniel and Cissie Bellamy's company in "Her Marriage Lines," an interesting and capitally played drama. The one-act comedy, "A Slight Mistake," precedes.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips.—A great treat is afforded the patrons of this hall in the first appearance here of Lily Fairney, mezzo-contralto; W. H. Squire, the celebrated 'cellist; and Marie Novello, the eminent pianist, who are warmly applauded for what is unquestionably one of the finest musical performances that has been presented in the town. Duncan and Godfrey are always welcome here; and the Magleys are smart society dancers. Happy Tom Parker returns with his usual success; and Anna Hana proves as entertaining and welcome as ever. Austin and Hartley are clever whirlwind barrel jumpers; and the Royal Merry Four are harmonising comedians and dancers, who give an enjoyable and appreciated turn. The Three Dancing Madcaps also deserve the applause bestowed. War in pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., The Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence.—Revue is again the attraction here, Mr. Arthur Behan presenting "Wait a Minute," which provides a capital entertainment. The rest of the bill is filled by Ray Moir, in her latest successes; and Palette, lightning artist and musician, who also introduces some well-trained comedy and acrobatic dogs.
Boors, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-street; 301, Belgrave-gate.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass.—First three nights, "Marciste," and other films; Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Hindle Wakes."

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., Mr. Sampson Salt; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass. — "Verdict of the Heart," "Me and Me Moke," and varieties.
Boors, The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-street, and Sheep Market-street.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—G. M., Mr. Henry Lees; A. M., Mr. J. Cousins; M. D., Mr. J. D. Miller.—Under the title of "Sing, Boys, Sing," an alluring entertainment, provided by the Ten Tommies, all of whom have fought, and been wounded, either in the Western or Eastern war district, has naturally the leading place on this week's programme, and, needless to say, the heroes have a rousing reception. In addition to this outstanding item Marjory Dawson introduces a "crinoline" turn; Stanley Russell gives a clever display, as the youngest ventriloquist on the stage; Werds Brothers shine in a comedy eccentric act; the Petro and Leon Trio are excellent classical gymnasts; the "great" Sterling presents his miniature music hall; and Giordano is an uncommon Italian entertainer and illusionist.
Boors, The Chemists, 15, Leith-walk.

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; B. M., Mr. Walter O'Sullivan.—D. W. Griffith's spectacle, "The Birth of a Nation."
Boors, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

MANCHESTER.

PALACE.—M.D., Mr. Walter de Frece; S., Mr. Jesse Hunt; G.M., Mr. Alan Young; A.M., Mr. J. L. Connor.—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella."—a big success—is playing here to full houses.

HIPPODROME.—C. & M.D., Mr. Oswald Store; A.M., Mr. George F. Reynolds; Advt. M., Mr. D. Forbes Winslow.—That delightful spectacular water show, "The Hula Girl," continues a big attraction here.

TIVOLI.—L., Mr. J. Lever; R.M., Mr. J. T. Malpas; A.M., Mr. Frank Ashworth.—Here Mr. J. Lever presents with success a musical revue, "Some Girls," a bright show, featuring Jackson Owen, Mabel Hirst, Vena Ve.mar, Arthur Carvey, Bessie Leslie, Ken E. Scott, and the Three San Remo Girls; Harry Mallane, eccentric dancer and mimic, also supplies a good turn.

LESLIE'S PAVILION.—Sole P., Mr. Harry Leslie; A.M., Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. Harry Ruming and his company, The Mountebanks, are here. The company—an excellent one—includes Betty Bates, Ethel Gordon, Gladys Fortesque, Lily Mackenzie, Frederick Bates, Leonard Henry, and Mr. Ruming himself.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; G.M., Mr. H. Winstanley.—Fred Karno's new version of the "Mumming Birds" is a fine attraction here. Good turns are also offered by Dan Bowker, Jew and Lea, Mareski, Three Crooks, and Lucy Brennan.
Boors, The Chemists, 15, 17, and 19, St. Ann-street, St. Anne's-square; 48 and 50, Oldham-street; 39, Market-street.

MARGATE.

HIPPODROME.—P., The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—The London and Provincial Touring Co., Ltd., present "What's Yours?"

NEATH.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Geo. Butt; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—Evelyn May and Bertha; Nona Dixie; Cleos and Page; and pictures.

GNOLL HALL.—P., The Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge.—Howard F. Glynn and Elsye Haynson; Les Van Durens; and pictures.
Boors, The Chemists, 56, Wind-street.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—The revue, "Don't Crush"; Ena Dayne; Harry Bedford; and pictures.
Boors, The Chemists, 30, Commercial-st.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M. and S., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. W. Ashton.—Sammy Shields, Scottish comedian; Sam and Fanny Trio, in a dancing scena; Minnie Elsie, vocalist; Bert Williams, ventriloquist; Violet Vaughan Trio of musicians; Jean Kram, juggler; Hall and Turn, comedy acrobats; and the Golden Gipsy.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. James Richardson.—D. Leon is presenting "The Beauty Spot." The principals, Florrie Elliston, Bobbie Dark, Tommy Banks, and Cyril Lawrence are well supported.
Boors, The Chemists, 6, Gold-street.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—Messrs. Lionel Rignold and Charles Macdona's company in "Diplomacy."

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Phil Rabey.—Mme. Wyndham and company, "impersonators of famous people"; the Red, White, and Blue Trio, lady cyclists; Warner, ventriloquist; and pictures.
Boors, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-street.

NORTHWICH.

PAVILION, LTD.—D., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; M. D., Mr. Robert Hamilton; R. M., Mr. Harold Booth.; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Barlow. — The Pioneer Productions Company present the spectacular comedy revue, "Frills and Fancies." Company includes the Misses Rosalie Jacobi, May Garry, Cissy Vedelle, Sybil Sumner, Daisy Kenneday, and Nellie Southworth, Mr. Jack Howard, Bob Wiseman, and Bros. Hanaway (the solo dancers), Misses Babs Raymonde, and Bella Sheldon.
Boors, The Chemists, 25, High-street.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; A. M., Mr. Hy. Furnival; Mus. D., Mr. S. A. Perman.—Messrs. Dudley Stuart and Gerald Alexander's company in "Bella Donna." Cast includes Misses Georgina Wynter and Diana Lynton, Messrs. Dudley Stuart, H. Vickers Smith, W. Vaughan and Gerald Alexander.

HIPPODROME. — P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Mus. D., Mr. E. M. Nabarro.—Mr. Joe Collins' company in "Robinson Crusoe." Company includes Misses Cleo Peel, Anita Edis, Nellie Birtles, Messrs. Fred Forbes, Frank Chapman, Jimmy Laurie, Tom Warne and Scott Alexander.

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE. — Varieties: Signor Borelli; Miss Florence Jones.

PRINCE OF WALES' CINEMA PALACE.—Varieties: Amati Trio.
Boors, The Chemists, 38, London-street.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; R. M., Mr. Wentworth Croke.—The artistic and attractive revue, "Bric-a-Brac," is drawing highly appreciative houses nightly. Miss Marie Royston captivates her audience in the melodious song "Roses," a dainty number sweetly rendered. Miss Madge White scores strongly with her delightful singing of "Toy-Land," and Miss Daphne Glenn brightly interprets the song "Glad to See You Back." Miss Winifred Elliee enters vivaciously into the spirit of her "Parisienne Song," and the Sixteen Bric-a-Brac Girls prove adepts in the art of dancing with precision and neatness. Mr. Coningsby Brierley and Miss Royston make all their points in the duet, "The Home of the Hun," and the high note of humour is struck in a smart skit on war and other topics by Mr. Geo. Tully as an Optimist and Mr. Brierley as a Pessimist.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. J. Hague.—"Dick Whittington" was produced on Boxing Day.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Winfield; Asst. M., Mr. T. P. Henness.—"Razzle-Dazzle," presented by Albert de Courville, is a bright and thoroughly attractive revue, with light, catchy music, lovely dresses, exquisite scenery, a charming chorus, and full complement of laughter-rousing comedians, all of which give great delight to crowded houses. The excellent cast includes Edna Morgan, a smart and vivacious artiste, Betty Green, Ernest Sefton, Kenneth Cochrane, Violet Cooney, Goody Willis, Richard Andean, and the inimitable comedian Herbert Darnley.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Wilmot; R. M., Mr. Harry Lyons; Asst. M., Mr. H. Minshull Harcourt. — The dirigible airship of Captain de Vittens, sailing round the auditorium, is a clever piece of mechanism, which evokes wonder and applause. A smart entertainment is provided by Nella Webb and Elvin Hedges, rousing the utmost enthusiasm; the Madeleine Yvonne Trio present a delightful musical ensemble; Hamlyn and Mack keep the fun rolling; George Adams uses his fine baritone voice to good effect; the Trents submit their humorous skit "Detective Copp"; and the merriment is helped along by Harry Hasto, comedian, and Wallis and Roberts, speciality artistes.
Boors, The Chemists, 22, Goose-gate, Trent Bridge; 48, Arkwright-street; 177-79, Alfreton-road; 126-8, Derby-road; 88, St. Ann's Well-road; High-street and Pelham-street, Exchange-walk; 21, London-road; 181, Mansfield-road; 10, Listergate; 1, Angel-road. Market-place; 1, Mansfield-road (corner Shakespeare-street); 269, St. Ann's Well-road, Carrington-street Bridge; 66, Wilford-road.

NUNEATON.

HIPPODROME.—P., The United Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. R. Lynn.—Miss Marie Santoi's company in "The Pearl of the Orient."
Boors, The Chemists, 11, Market-place.

OSWESTRY.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Mr. Wally George; M. D., Mr. Louis L. Wood.—Miss Kit-Toms and company in "All Change Here."

KING'S THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. Thos. Goulden; R. M., Mr. J. F. Younge.—Strebelle Orchestra; Allen and Edwards' company in "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—M. and L., Mr. John Codman; M. D., Jess Holroyd.—Miss Henrietta Schrier and Mr. Lodge-Percy in "Sunday."
Boors, The Chemists, 5, Church-street.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE. — P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Derrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith.—A big attraction is provided here by Messrs. George Grossmith and Edward Lauriliard's company with "The Bing Boys Are Here." Dan Agar, as Lucifer Bing, and Walter Westwood, as Oliver Bing, achieve triumphant success; Emma is inimitably portrayed by Cissy Thompson. The principals are ably supported by a strong cast. The 4 Wards, glee singers; chorus, and orchestra are under the direction of Charles Baker.
Boors, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street; and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PETERBOROUGH.

GRAND.—M., Mr. A. Edwards.—Mr. Harry Joseph presents Lena Stanton's company in the pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," Miss Lena Joseph appearing as Jack, Miss Hilda Maas as the principal girl, Mr. Harry Joseph as Dame, Little Toss and Bonny Betty, 3 Colquhouns, and Sisters Romney.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. F. D. Hawkins.—A very good programme here includes Albert Royce, comedian; Ernie Whitmee and Lady; Sergeant Bert Symes; the Ronnies; Severn Tip Tops, singing and dancing interlude.
Boors, The Chemists, 43, Narrow-street; 16 and 18, Westgate; 8, Market-place.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. J. M. Glover.—The pantomime, "Jack and Jill," produced on Boxing Day, is proving a big draw, and crowded houses are the rule.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—Mes and Parry.—"The Prisoner of Zen the attraction here. Mr. Fredk. V Rudolf V. and Rudolf Rassendyll, Marie Robson Princess Flavia, and W. Edward Stirling Black Michael.

GRAND THEATRE.—Messrs. King a Parry.—The pantomime, "Babes in th Wood" is continuing to attract crowded houses.

PALACE THEATRE.—Mr. T. Hoyle.—The excellent revue, "Little Miss Mustard," is topping the bill here. The cast includes Bert Gilbert, Ivy Ray, Herbert La Martine, Frank Lidington, Eric Randolph, Elsie Norris, Len Kildoy, and the Eight Model Maics. Other turns are La Razoko Duo and the Paget Trio.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mrs. S. A. Driver.—Miss Winifred Maude presents "Somewhere a Heart is Breaking."
Boors, The Chemists, 2, Market-place.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Peter Davey.—The pantomime, "Cinderella," produced by Mr. Peter Davey, is going well, and is considered one of the most successful that have been seen in Portsmouth, playing to crowded houses nightly.

PRINCES THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs. F. Marriott Watson are presenting the drama "Wait Till the Clouds Roll By." The heroine of the play, Josephine Peters, is taken by Mrs. Marriott Watson, whilst Mr. Marriott Watson is the smooth-tongued, rascally lawyer and spy. They are ably supported by Miss Edith Boughton, Miss Cherry Veheyne, Mr. Robt. Monteigle, Miss Eileen Vanbrugh, Mr. Jack Snape, Mr. James Chippendale, and Mr. Arthur Jones.

KING'S THEATRE.—M., Mr. A. R. Hollands.—"Extra Special" is here, featuring Ray Kay, the well-known comedian, supported by Betty Bush, Marguerite Campbell, Albert Rees, John McMahon, and a full chorus of extra special girls. Variety by the Four Clovelly Girls, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden, and Arthur Hayes.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. Claude Marner has a big programme. Mark Sheridan tops the bill, and, of course, goes very strong. Conrad's Novelty Minstrels are a good turn, while Mabel Bunyea and company, supported by Bruce Winston, present a charming sketch, "Two Hearts are Won." Other items are Cooper Mitchell, entertainer; Miss Effie Mann; and the Karmo, Vera Rochdale Martelloni Troupe.

COLISEUM.—The seasonable revue, "Crackers," occupies the stage this week, the whole production being presented by a capable all-round company. Variety turns by Costa and George, and Jose Baptiste.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—M., Mr. Robson.—The pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is going well.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Leslie Knight.—Pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Preston Empire and Hotel Co.; M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush.—The Five Symphony Girls, in musical act; Alex. Edison, comedian; Madge and Lily Williams, in character studies; the Mountfords, acrobats; Jackson and Doraine, entertainers; Macintosh and Royal, in dancing act; Tambo and Tambo, in speciality

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

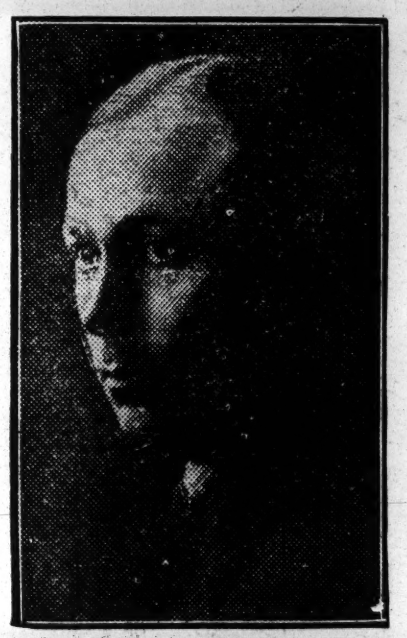
MISS BLANCHE PEARL.
THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.

Photo. by Sydney, Manchester.
MR. MARTIN ADESON.
Baroness, "Cinderella."
MARLBOROUGH, N.

[*Photo. by Carbonora Co., Liverpool.*
MISS MABEL MEDROW.
OPERA HOUSE, SOUTHPORT.

[*Photo. by Hana.*
FRED EMNEY.
Baroness de Bounce.
LONDON OPERA HOUSE.

[*Photo., Foulsham and Benfield.*
MISS MADGE TITHERADGE.
Florian, "Puss in Boots."
DRURY LANE.



[*Photo., Dobson, Liverpool.*
MR. TUBBY EDLIN.
Tommy Dodd, "Mother Goose."
LYCEUM THEATRE.

[*Photo., Hana.*
MISS DAISY DORMER.
Goody Two-Shoes.
GRAND, LEEDS.

[*Photo., Fielding, Leeds.*
MISS VICTORIA CARMEN.
Jack, "Mother Goose."
LYCEUM THEATRE.

MISS RENEE REEL.
Principal Girl.
GAIETY, DUBLIN.

[*Photo. by Elliott and Fry, Ltd.*
MISS DOROTHY WARD.
Principal Boy.
T.R., BIRMINGHAM.

MISS NORA DELANY.
Jack, "The House That Jack Built."
THE PALLADIUM.

MISS MADELINE WELLS.
KING'S EDINBURGH.

PRINCIPALS OF THE PANTOMIMES.

[Photo, Dobson Studios, Liverpool.
MISS LILLIE LASSAH.
"Robinson Crusoe."
ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

[Photo, E. Hulton and Co.
MR. HORACE MILLS.
Mrs. Tutt, "Goody Two Shoes."
GRAND, LEEDS.

MISS MAIE ASH.
Margery, "Mother Goose."
LYCEUM.

HARRY WELDON.
Buttons, "Cinderella."
PALACE, MANCHESTER.

[Photo, Jas. Bacon and Sons, Newcastle.
MR. FRED ALLANDALE.
Squire Badjot, "Mother Goose."
LYCEUM.

[Photo, Jas. Bacon and Son, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
MISS SUSIE BELMORE.
The Princess, "The House that Jack Built."
THE PALLADIUM.

MISS DAISY WOOD.
Alan, "Goody Two Shoes."
GRAND, LEEDS.

MISS ELSIE GREGORY.
"Cinderella."
MARLBOROUGH, N.

MISS QUEENIE GWYNNE.
"Cinderella."
PRINCE'S, BRISTOL.

[Photo, Adelphi Studios, Ltd.
MISS ENA LESTRANGE.
Alice, "Dick Whittington."
GRAND, CROYDON.

[Photo, Charles and Russell.
MISS DOROTHY ROSSLYN.
T.R., BATH.

MISS DAISY WEST COLLINS.
PRINCE'S, BRADFORD.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

rge's New Thriller.
But for quite a bloodcurdler from orge Alexander one of these days he starts some triple bill matinées the St. James's. Sir George has ready made my (more or less) young esh creep with a few hints as to this murder-thriller. It is the work of another Knight—namely, Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch.

Not "A Bas!" les Aristocrats.
There is one aristocrat to whom none need worry to say "A Bas!" and that is the aristocrat to be impersonated by Sir George Alexander in Louis N. Parker's new drama of that name at the St. James's. This French nobleman will be found quite a fine fellow, at first in full manhood and later as bearing a graceful and dignified old age.

In Love?
Is this aristocrat in love? Well, yes, in a manner. But take note that Alexander the aristocrat is not the lover in the play. Still he does contrive to help that lover and his love in a manner which I have promised not to divulge at present.

The Octogenarian "Star."
One of the most interesting figures in "The Aristocrat" will be a grand marquise of the ancient régime—a character allotted to that fine actress Genevieve Ward, who is in her eightieth year. My honoured old friend tells me that she is delighted both with this part and with having this fresh opportunity of acting with Sir George Alexander. Another fine character is that allotted to Charles Glenney, who (with Jimmy Beveridge) has been scoring so heavily with Sir George in "Howard and Son" in the variety theatres.

A Former "Hero" to be a "Criminal."
In the new American importation, "Under Cover," which Messrs. Groesmith-Laurillard-Dott-Levey-Lang, etc., will shortly produce, Matheson Lang—forsaking "heroes" for the time—enacts a kind of "crook."

Don't be Alarmed.
However, that "crooked" person will eventually become straight, after a very big scene which it is not quite "cricket" for me to describe just now. Enough that he becomes more worthy of the heroine—who, being played by a charming and clever actress, front-named Jessie, is not likely to prove the "Winter" of his discontent. "Under Cover" may be expected to be uncovered at the Strand in a few weeks.

A Princess-Prince.
One of the earliest new musical comedies to sprout in the Spring season will be one at present called somewhat clumsily and too obviously "A Petticoat Prince." The libretto is by Arthur Davenport, and the music by Napoleon Lambelet—who is a native of Athens, but long a loyal British subject and one of the best and brightest composers on these—or any other—islands. The producer is Charles Wibrow—who is not only brilliant in that line, but is also a rich and ripe comedian, both Shakespearean and otherwise.

A Bright Idea.
Mr. Seymour Hicks has struck upon a bright idea. He intends to provide what he calls a refuge for the soldiers who have "nowhere to go" on Sunday nights. He proposes to start his experiment on the night of the 14th inst., when he will place the Princes Theatre at the disposal of as many Tommies as can accept his kind invitation. No charge will be made for admission, and nothing will be on sale. The programme is to consist of vaudeville, song, and orchestral music, while the visitors will be treated to unlimited smokes. Mr. Hicks can, I feel sure, place reliance on the assistance promised by a number of well-known theatrical and vaudeville stars.

Child Critics.
The management of the Savoy Theatre are offering beautiful books of "Alice in Wonderland," size 10 x 8, to children who write the best criticisms of the play.

Paterfamilias Properly Proud.
Sydney Bransgrove, the controller of so many theatrical interests, is the happiest of mortals nowadays, and the elasticity of his step is wonderful to watch. I wonder whether his elation is at all connected with the success scored by his little daughter Gladys as the Fairy of the Slipper in the Pantomime "Cinderella" at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston. If so, he may justly be proud, for Miss Bransgrove, who is only twelve years of age, is being encored nightly for singing a number which she undertook at a moment's notice without rehearsal.

Mr. Manhattan, Philanthropist.
Mr. Raymond Hitchcock, the famous American comedian, has toured the streets of Boston on behalf of the Allied Bazaar. While Mr. Hitchcock was speaking the ladies of the "Betty" company sold 3,000 tickets to the crowds.

Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bull.
On Thursday, at the conclusion of a performance of "Cinderella" at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, the staff made a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bull of a handsome silver rose bowl, bearing the inscription "Presented to Mr. and Mrs. Bull by the staff of the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, Christmas, 1916." The gathering took place in the foyer of the theatre. Mr. T. Latham (Mr. Bull's assistant) made the presentation, and Mr. Bull returned thanks in a neat little speech.

Thought-reading for Charity.
H.R.H. Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll) has promised to attend Mr. Alfred Capper's thought reading seance at the Æolian Hall on Tuesday afternoon next. The proceeds will be entirely devoted to the Church Army Huts Fund. The chair will be taken by Mr. H. Pike Pease, M.P., and the members of the Reception Committee include Admiral Sir John and Lady Jellicoe, General Sir Horace and Lady Smith-Dorrien, Lady Robertson, Mme. Clara Butt, and Mr. and Mrs. Kendal.

The Martin Harvey Tour.
Mr. Martin Harvey opened his spring tour on Boxing Day at the Torquay Royal in the presence of a house crowded from floor to ceiling. The popular actor was given a great reception, and "David Garrick" was immensely enjoyed by packed houses throughout the week. This week the Harvey company is at the Northampton Opera House, and on Monday next opens at the Croydon Grand.

Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss N. de Silva, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Alfred Ibberson, Mr. Fred Grove, Mr. A. Fisher, Miss Kate Carlyon, and Miss Mary Gray all took part in a successful concert and entertainment, arranged by Mr. Frank B. O'Neill, at the Torbay Military Hospital last Thursday afternoon. The contributions of the players, which included "Aurora's Captive," gave wounded heroes great enjoyment.

Mrs. Martin Harvey (Miss N. de Silva) made a highly successful appeal in aid of the Red Cross during the matinée of "David Garrick" at the Theatre Royal, Torquay, last Saturday afternoon. The sum of £51 was the result.

A New Welsh Play.
"Where is He?" is the title of a new Welsh play shortly to be produced at the Court. One of the principal characters will be played by Miss Margaret Halstan.

"The A. A."
The title given to the new monthly official organ of the Actors' Association is "The A. A.," of which the first number will be issued on Monday next, Jan. 8. A most interesting feature will be the "foreword," which was written by Sir Henry Irving from Bradford a few hours before his death there in November, 1905. Appropriately enough, too, the leading article is from the pen of his son, Mr. H. B. Irving. The motto chosen for the new publication, which is to be priced at twopence, is "Vis unita fortior"—"Power is strengthened by union." It is encouraging to learn that no fewer than 350 new members joined the Association in 1916.

"High Jinks."
Saturday last marked the 150th performance of "High Jinks" at the Adelphi Theatre, and the return to the cast of Miss Maisie Gay, who has been suffering from influenza. Early in the New Year Mr. Alfred Butt will introduce into this successful musical play some new numbers, including "Coaxing," composed by Mr. Max Darewski, for Miss Marie Blanche.

Dr. Henniker.
Dr. Henniker, the veteran composer and examiner for the London College of Music, who was taken seriously ill at Newport, Mon., ten days ago, is progressing favourably.

Mr. Henry Dana's Bereavement.
I add my deepest sympathies to the many received by Mr. Henry Dana, of His Majesty's Theatre, on the loss he has sustained by the death of his son from wounds received in action. The young officer's C.O. wrote to Mr. Dana bearing testimony to the gallantry displayed by his son, and also stating that he was about to be promoted to a captaincy when he was struck down.

The A.A. Year Book.
The A.A. Year Book for 1917 will be published at the end of this week. It is free to the members of the Actors' Association, but those requiring it sent by post must remit two stamps to the Secretary, 32, Regent-street, London, W.

An Advertisement Note.
My readers should note that, owing to war conditions, advertisements for "The Era" cannot be received after four o'clock on Tuesdays.

"The Era" New Offices.
"The Era" is now installed in palatial new premises on the first floor at 35, Wellington-street, nearly opposite its late address, and a few doors from its old home of many years ago. The telephone number remains the same—Regent 4546-7.

Smoke Causes a Panic.
The high price of coal has led to serious consequences at the Royal Opera House, Dresden. The cost of the black diamonds had increased so much that the directors found it impossible to heat the house, and closed down for three days. It appears that cheaper fuel had been bought, with the result that the theatre filled with smoke and created a panic. The money was refunded to the audience. Two days later a supply of better coal arrived, and performances were resumed.

"Under Cover."
The cast of "Under Cover," which will have a preliminary week at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, beginning Jan. 8, prior to its London opening at the Strand on Jan. 17, includes, in addition to Matheson Lang and Jessie Winter, James Carew, Wilfred Draycott, Malise Sheridan and Hilda Bayle. Mr. Lang will be a modern and polite smuggler; Miss Winter, the girl who loves him, but is forced to track him down in order to save her sister — Miss Bayley — from the consequences of a youthful misdemeanour; and James Carew, a very American Customs official. Although a drama, "Under Cover" is at least as full of humour as of thrills.

Royal General Theatrical Fund.
The January meeting of the directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held yesterday at Goschen-buildings, Covent Garden, the chair being occupied by Mr. Lionel Carson. Messrs. Charles Rock (hon. treasurer), Douglas Gordon, F. Percival Stevens, Hubert Willis, H. Saxe Wyndham, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary) were in attendance. The accounts for the year 1916 were received. The secretary reported further investment in Exchequer Six per Cent. Bonds, making in all £2,500 for the year 1916.

Information of a legacy of £50 bequeathed to the Fund by the late Mr. G. A. Loveridge was received. Several matters were considered, and instructions given.

Grand Opera at Liverpool.
The grand opera season at the Liverpool Shakespeare has opened with brilliant success. Not only has every performance been witnessed by a house crowded to the limits, but hundreds of people have been unable to obtain admission.

Three-fold Gift to W. W. Kelly.
In addition to the silver tea service presented to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Kelly by the wounded soldiers of Birkenhead and district, Mr. Kelly has now been the recipient of a silver inkstand from the inmates of the Ionic-street Military Hospital. These gifts indicate the wounded soldiers' gratitude to the manager for his weekly special performances on their behalf.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. W. W. Kelly entertained another 2,000 wounded heroes at the New Royal, Birkenhead. Co-operating with him were the full Grossmith-Laurillard company in "Potash and Perlmutter," which greatly amused the brave fellows. During the afternoon Mr. Kelly had the honour of receiving a third gift from the grateful Tommies. This came from the "boys" of the Tranmere Hospital, and took the form of a very handsome silver cigar-case. Mr. Kelly, in acknowledging, was quite overcome, and had the greatest difficulty in thanking the brave fellows for their display of appreciation.

"Private Secretary" at Apollo.
Mr. Andre Charlot's artistic success, "A Pierrot's Christmas," terminated its season at the Apollo Theatre on Saturday night. Arrangements have been made for Mr. Charles Hawtrey's famous farcical comedy, "The Private Secretary," to be presented at the Apollo next Saturday afternoon, and performances will be given twice daily until further notice. Mr. Charles E. Walenn will play the part of the Rev. Robert Spalding, and the rôle of Cattermole will be in the able hands of Mr. Roy Byford. As a first piece Miss Christine Silver will present "Doorsteps," by E. Henry Edwards.

Death of a Limerick Manager.
News of the death, at Barrington's Hospital, Limerick, after a brief illness, of Mr. George Abel, the lessee of the Theatre Royal, has been received in the town with much regret. Mr. Abel, who was in his 47th year, died on the 29th ult. He was connected with the theatrical profession for many years before going to Limerick eighteen months ago. He had been manager for Mrs. Langtry and Mrs. Kendal for many years, and managing director of the Arthur Rousbey Opera Company.

Pantomime in Endell-street.
A Christmas pantomime played under exceptional circumstances was that of "Aladdin," which was produced at the Military Hospital in Endell-street before an audience consisting of wounded soldiers, some of whom were confined to their beds. Though the stage was on a miniature scale, the performance, as well as the general management, were excellent. The story of Aladdin in quite an up-to-date vtrsion, by Mrs. J. T. Grein, according to whose version the treasure Abanazar seeks is a heart, and in the end it is provided for him by the women doctors of the Endell-street hospital. Mr. Ernest Thesiger played Widow Twankey, Mr. Nigel Playfair the Emperor of China, Mr. Ernest Milton the Magician, and Miss Judith Wogan the title-rôle. They were successful in keeping the Tommies thoroughly amused all through the performance.

A New Cut Harlequinade.
"A Christmas Carol," which will be given at the Royal Victoria Hall next Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings, and Wednesday and Thursday afternoons next, will be preceded by "A New Cut Harlequinade," which will voice the views of the Vic. patrons on the invasion of Shakespeare.

Theatricals in Isle of Man.
With the production of "Floradora" on Boxing Night by the Douglas Choral Union the Gaiety Theatre opened its doors for the second time since the commencement of the war, writes my Douglas correspondent. The theatre was crowded from floor to ceiling. The principal characters were sustained by Miss Winifred Adams, Mr. Andrew Keenan, Mr. Percy Fallon, Mr. Tom Longden, Mr. Arthur Bing, Mr. Robert H. Gell, Miss Lena Connall, and Miss Margaret Menay. The performance, which was repeated on the following four nights, has relieved the cimmerian gloom which shrouded Hall Caine Land during the dark days of war.

A well-known and popular personality in the Isle of Man has disappeared by the death of Fitzgibbon O'Connor, who for nearly half a century had been connected with dramatic enterprise in the island. He was associated with Mr. Alfred Hemming at the old Grand Theatre in its palmy days, and, after it was rebuilt, for twenty-one years.

A Coming Charity Matinée.
The matinée, in aid of the prisoners of war in Germany, at His Majesty's Theatre, on Tuesday next, organised by the Countess of Huntingdon and the ladies of the committee, promises to be one of the most important and interesting of the season. Queen Mary and Queen Alexandra have both given their patronage, and society will have many representatives in boxes and stalls. One of the chief attractions will be "An Italian Masque" in the Middle Ages, in which a number of titled ladies will make their appearance, in addition to some well-known actors. Another item of the programme will be the one-act play "In the 45," written by Lady Kathleen Curzon-Herrick. The musical part of the programme also promises to be of unusual interest.

Pay As You Go Out.
I have just learned of a novel means of evading the Entertainment Tax, practised by a small theatre manager in the West of England. He admitted his patrons free, and made a charge as they went out, two burly attendants being stationed at the doors to encourage payment. He did not, however, long escape the vigilance of the Excise inspector.

THE DRUID.

THE COMPTON COMMEMORATION.

LORD MAYOR OF YORK'S TRIBUTE.

An indication of the valuable services to the stage performed by Mr. Edward Compton during his thirty-five years as actor-manager is given in the following letter from the Lord Mayor of York. It is hoped that, as the date of the dinner at the Hotel Cecil has been altered to Jan. 14, the occasion may be graced by the presence of his Worship:—

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

DEAR SIR,—I am enclosing cheque for a guinea towards the presentation to be made to Mr. Edward Compton on his completion of thirty-five years' work, as a small tribute of recognition of his services to the stage, and especially in connection with his old English comedy company.

We in the provinces often labour under considerable disadvantages compared with residents in London as regards theatrical fare, and therefore we owe a special debt of gratitude to Mr. Compton for the ever-welcome visits of the "C.C.C."—a combination of artistic completeness which I am afraid has at the moment no real successor.

It would have given me much pleasure to have been present at the dinner on New Year's Eve, but the date is a little inconvenient for being away from home. With all best wishes.—I am, yours very faithfully,

FORSTER TODD,
Mansion House, York. Lord Mayor.
Dec. 27, 1916.

THESPIAN ROLL OF HONOUR.

The latest additions to the Roll of Honour are those of Captain John C. Lauder, son of the famous Scotch comedian, whose death in action is just announced. The list now runs as follows:—

Alexander, Harry, Grenadier Guards.
Armstrong, Henry Louis Winthrop, 2nd Lieut., 7th Batt. Somerset Light Infantry.
Barry, Shiel, London Regt.
Benson, E. W., Lieut.-Col., King's Royal Rifles.
Birch, Herbert Trenly, Corporal, Wiltshire Regt.
Bosanquet, R. T., 7th Middlesex.
Brandon-Thomas, James Grant, Second Lieut., Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Brookes, Gordon Byron, Captain, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.
Button, Robert ("Bobbie" Russell), R.G.A.
Carlton, Lawrence, 40th Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C.
Carroll, John Edward (Jack E. Carroll), Trooper, 5th Royal Irish Lancers.
Cattley, Clive, Canadian Regt.
Chapin, Harold, Lance-Corporal, R.A.M.C.
Cole, Chas. H., Second Lieut., County of London Regt.
Colman, S. G., H.M.S. Good Hope.
Crevenstone, Victor.
Cudd, Leslie, Queen's Westminster Rifles.
Curtis, Arthur John Powles, Captain, 17th King's Royal Rifles.
Dartnell, Wilbur, V.C., Lieutenant, 25th Battalion, Frontiersmen Fusiliers.
Dennys, Lieut. Kenneth, Munster Fusiliers.
Druce, Duncan, Lance-Corporal, 16th Middlesex (Public School Corps).
Du Maurier, Lt.-Col. Guy, 3rd Battalion Royal Fusiliers.
Fulton, Richard, Royal Fusiliers.
Gardner, Godfrey, Second Lieut.
Gilbey, Tom (Tom J. Kildare), 23rd Royal Fusiliers.
Goodes, Captain G. L. (M.C.), London Regt.
Gray, Leslie A., Second Lieut., Worcestershire Regt.
Grove, Laurence, Royal Naval Reserve.
Gullifer, A. T.
Hallam, Basil, Captain (Basil Hallam Radford), Kite Balloon Section, Royal Flying Corps.
Hammond, Frederick Robert Cyprian, Second Lieut., Royal Fusiliers.
Harris, Henry J. L., Lieut., Hampshire Regiment.
Howard, Lewis, Lieut.-Col. (temp.), Somerset Light Infantry.
Howson, Chas. E., Lieut., Canadian Contingent.
Jones, Alfred Cotton (M.C.), Captain, Lincolnshire Regt.
Knowles, John, Gordon Highlanders (Territorials).
Lauder, John C., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
Lloyd, Alfred, Royal Fusiliers.
Lovet, Paul (Sergeant P. W. L. Janison), Royal Fusiliers.
Lowder, Lancelot, 1st Grenadier Guards.
Macnaughton, A. E. H., Second Lieut., Royal Sussex Regiment.
Mackinder, Lionel, Corporal, Berkshire Regt.
Marris, A. B.
Martin, C. Walter, Second-Lieut., 1st Royal Marine Batt.
Mason, Second Lieut. Edward, 3rd Batt. Northamptonshire Regt.
Maude, Robert Henry Ernest, Lieut., 3rd West Yorks.
Milward, A.
McClelland, Laurence, 1st Northamptonshire.
Musgrove, Stuart, Lieut., East Surrey Regt.
Owen, Meredyth (Merrige, Meredyth), 9th Welsh.
Oughterson, Hugh, Lieut., South African Scottish.
Paterson, Sergt. Arthur, 4th Batt. London Rifle Brigade.
Powell, Will.
Roberts, Reuben (Roland Chester), Captain, Army Ordnance.
Roper, Eric (M.C.), Lieut., Royal Fusiliers.
Sanger, Eddie, London Fusiliers.
Struthers-Perkins, Guy (Guy Struthers), Lieutenant, Royal Marines.
Tennant, Edmund H., Corporal, 16th Middlesex (Public Schools Batt.).
Thorpe, Richard (Clinton Thorpe), 18th Batt. Manchester Regt.
Todd-Stewart, James, London Scottish.
Tritschler, Henry Joseph, Devonshire Regt.
Vane, Aylwin, Lance-Corporal.
Venning, Gerald Edwin, Captain, 1st Suffolk.
Wagner, Richard Cyril.
Walsh, Lionel, Capt., 2nd Batt., Dublin Fusiliers.
Watt, Basil H., Second Lieut., Cameron Highlanders.
Wilkinson, Ambrose, Second Lieut., 6th Middlesex.
Wood, Herbert, 8th East Yorks.

The bookings for next year at the Winter Gardens, New Brighton, are exceptionally attractive. Among the plays to be presented there are "The Little Minister," "A Place in the Sun," "Ye Gods," Mr. Horace Hodges and company in "Grumpy," and "The Ware Case"; Mr. H. B. Irving's company, in "The Barton Mystery"; the Raynor repertory company, "Peg o' My Heart"; the Moffats, in "Bauldy," "Baby Mine"; also "Eliza Comes to Stay," "The Happy Day," "My Lady Frayle," "The Cinema Star," "Balkan Princess," and "Betty." Included among the foregoing engagements is Mr. Douglas's tenth repertory season of six weeks, during which a new play, by a local author, will be presented.

REVIVAL OF "WHERE THE RAINBOW ENDS."

The law of the survival of the fittest is established once again this Christmas at the Globe Theatre, where one of the best children's plays ever written, "Where the Rainbow Ends," by Mrs. Clifford Mills and "John Ramsey," holds court every afternoon for the sixth year in succession. Friends old and new gave it a hearty welcome on Boxing afternoon. Those who had already made the acquaintance of Rosamund and Crispian Carey, and Jim Blunders and his duck of a little sister, Betty, and the wicked and ugly old Uncle Joseph and Aunt Matilda, with hearts as flinty as their name, and all their companions, pleasant and unpleasant, rejoiced to meet them anew; while those to whom they came as joyous surprises learned in the space of two-and-a-half hours to love or loathe them, according to their strongly defined characteristics, with equal gratification. Delightful as the mortals are, even more fascinating are the creatures of imagination in this ever-new story of earth and air, and chief of all in attraction is the exquisite Will-o'-the-Wisp of Miss Mavis Yorke, a little taller than we remember her last, but with every bit of that strange elusive fairy charm, that wonderful grace and that queer, half-human pathos that makes her impersonation an unforgettable experience to the beholder. The other immortals, the St. George of Mr. Gordon Bailey, noble and dignified as a patron saint should be, and speaking his stirring, patriotic lines with fine sincerity; the fearsome Dragon King of Mr. Clifford Alderson, always detached and never descending to farce; the weird, croaking sea-witch of Miss Mona Harrison; and the kindly, submissive Genie of the Carpet of Mr. Eric Cowley, who also plays Captain Carey, all win their meed of well-merited applause. The strong patriotic note of the play is naturally even more appropriate to-day than it was when it was first presented, and one's pride and satisfaction in the unfailing pluck and jollity of the two cadets, excellently played by Messrs. John Ekins and Frederick Torby, even greater than it used to be. Dear little schoolgirl Rosamund, to whose initiative the whole of the wonderful enterprise is due (a grand tribute to the wit of woman!) is played with pleasant sincerity by Miss Esmee Hersee, while tiny, plump Miss Alma Barnes is an adorable Betty. Mr. Tom Heslewood as Uncle Joseph, and Miss Nellie Bouverie as Aunt Matilda, M. Georges Desplas as the fiery little Frenchman, and Miss Faith Celli as sweet Mother Vera all add their share to a thoroughly enjoyable entertainment.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT GUILDFORD.

"Robinson Crusoe," at the Royal, Guildford, is playing to crowded houses in this, its second, week at the county town. If not aspiring to tremendous heights, the production is a very enjoyable one—its chief ingredients being the usual comedy efforts, spectacular effects, song successes, and brief references to the main incidents of Defoe's story.

Messrs. Ross and Wallis, Dan Rodney and Harry Wright work hard and successfull in the fun department. Mr. Ross is prime favourite. In the title-role Miss Renee Glynne scores, while Miss Helinor Bevan is a dainty "Polly." A feature of the show is the incidental music of Hamilton Webber, who acts as chef d'orchestra.

THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS.

Dennis Cleugh, who had so much success in America as Nat Goodwin's leading man and as stage manager of the Yale Pageant, returned to England last autumn in order to join the Inns of Court O.T.C.

Mauritus, the "handcuff king and jail-breaker," now Private John Walsh, 36761, 7th Leicester Regt., 12th I.B.D., Section 24, A.P.O., B.E.F., sends greetings through our columns to his brother and sister artistes for the New Year.

Gunner Arthur Klein, the popular young composer, has met with an accident to his back, and is in hospital at Cosham, Hants. He spent a very interesting Christmas Day. The nurses wheeled him from ward to ward to play for his fellow-inmates.

Jeffrey Fulton (Rifleman R. F. Werger) has returned from France to go through a course of training in the O.T.C. for a commission, for which he has been recommended after having been four months on active service.

Gunner Robert Ashby, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, is leaving Ripon. He hopes to be able to let his professional friends know through our columns his address in a few weeks.

"THE ERA" FINANCIAL SECTION.
In our next issue we shall publish our first weekly list of quotations of the stocks and shares of the principal theatre, music hall, and cinema companies.

This section will be under the control of a well-known financial expert, and correspondence is invited from readers seeking advice upon all matters of interest to shareholders.

In connection with this feature "The Era" will publish all amusement company announcements, declarations of dividends, notices of meetings, numbers of debentures drawn, balance sheets, and reports.

All communications should be addressed to the "Financial Editor," and should reach this office not later than Monday morning in each week.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.
Minutes of the council meeting held yesterday at 32, Regent-street:—Present: Mr. William G. Fay (in the chair), Messrs. A. Harding Steerman, Edgar B. Payne, John Mortimer, Percival Keitley, W. R. Staveley, Misses Georgia Drayson, Lisa Coleman, and Mr. Adnam Sprange, secretary.

The secretary read the minutes of the meeting on Dec. 19, 1916, and the meeting confirmed and the chairman signed the same.

A vote of condolence was passed with Miss Rosmund Mayne Young on the death of her father, with Mr. Harry Lauder on the death of his son killed in action, and with Mr. Henry Dana on the death of his son from wounds.

The various reports were read and adopted.

Nominations.—Andrew Money, Emlyn Davis, Nancie D. Harwood, Evelyn Raymond, Kathleen Saintsbury, Allan Jeyes, Albert Brand.

Elections.—Gladys E. Pessell, Stella de Valois, Lily Evremond, Richard A. S. Coke, Charles Garth, C. B. Cochran (life member), Charles Beard, Richard Andean, Peggy Doyle, Ronald E. Jeffrey, Dorothy Turner, Victor H. Weske, William Littlejohns, Peggy Wentworth.

Mr. J. Henderson, dramatic author and producer, of Blenheim House, Court-lane, Dulwich, who was the producer of the Opera House pantomime, "Jack and Jill," died very suddenly at 1, Pelham-street, Leicester, on Christmas Eve. Mr. Henderson, who was 63 years of age, retired for the night about half-past ten, and about an hour afterwards complained to his wife of illness. He became worse, and died within a few minutes. Mr. Henderson was widely known and respected in the theatrical profession, with which he had been connected nearly 50 years.

Mr. Geo. O. P. Jarvis, our Leicester representative, on Sunday afternoon, the 24th ult., had a rather lengthy conversation with Mr. Henderson in his room at the Royal Opera House, and left him at four o'clock in apparently the best of health, and looking forward with pleasure to the production of "Jack and Jill" for Messrs. Moreton and Heath, of the merits of which he was quite enthusiastic. He had performed in Leicester on several occasions, and has had a long experience of pantomimes, "Jack and Jill" being his thirty-second.

LOVE HERE IS MY HEART.

YES, INDEED!

You'll be glad to be identified with this one!

Have you noted the number of vaudeville artistes who have taken up the better grade of songs? We are particularly happy at being able to record the fact that many of them are singing that classy ballad by the composer of "A LITTLE LOVE, A LITTLE KISS," entitled

Love Here is My Heart.

Already a hit in America and France, and recognised as a sure success in Great Britain.

Published in four keys—D ♭, E ♭, F and G.

You will be glad to be identified with this song

Yes, Indeed!

ASCHERBERG, HOPWOOD & CREW, LTD.,
16, Mortimer Street, LONDON, W.

Telegraphic Address—"ASCHERBERG, WESDO, LONDON." Telephone—Museum 1671.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"CRUSOE" AT SHEFFIELD.

For nineteen years Mr. John Hart, the esteemed managing director of the Lyceum and the Royal Theatres, Sheffield, and other leading playhouses, has annually put before Steelopolis a veritable feast of seasonable humour and artistic spectacle. For the third time Mr. Hart presents the ever-popular "Robinson Crusoe," and a crowded and enthusiastic audience on Christmas Eve revelled in the adventures of Crusoe and his "trim bit o' bunting," to say nothing of the screamingly funny Mrs. Crusoe, and that laughter-provoking "nautical gent.," Will Atkins, with a scowl reminiscent of the old Vic. and the Sheffield Alexandra in their palmy melodrama days.

After a rattling overture with the "songs of London Town," up goes "the rag," and soon the big audience settles down to enjoy the picturesque set scene, an artistically designed and well-painted representation of the historic old port of Hull. On either side are quaint sixteenth-century houses, craft of the old class are in the offing, and moored to the wharf is a grand old "bottom" of the "Golden Hind" type. Mr. D. G. Hall has submitted some fine examples of the gentle art of canvas pictures on the large scale. The roly-poly berths 'tween decks of the Saucy Sally is a medium for any amount of practical fun. A splendid bit of design and brush work is the Wreck, leading to the Grotto beneath the sea. It is no discredit to the artist to say that Telbin's famous scene in "Babil and Bijou" has inspired Mr. Banks in his notable effort to materialise a poetic conception. Mr. Hart's refined artistry in the matter of beautiful ballets is well known, and an exquisite animated picture concludes Part 1. The scenes of note in the second part are the Island, a glowing set-piece with a charming ballet, followed by funny incidents; the Hut (exterior), with a truthful representation of the gorgeous verdure and brilliant flowers of the Pacific Islands; a Forest Clearing; and the final scene is a feast of barbaric splendour and refulgent glitter.

To come to the human interest of the annual, it was apparent that the management had carefully studied the critical taste of the Royal audience, a good company of popular burlesque artistes being headed by Miss Lily Iris, a vivacious young lady who is gifted with a shapely figure, a charming face, and a refined variety that will be brilliant assets in the triumphant success of the annual. In the famous Lydia Thompson dress in the Island scene she looked the incarnation of feminine charm, and she brought down the house with "Back to Blighty" and other songs. Miss Margot Joyce made a graceful and piquant principal girl as Polly Hopkins. The Fairy Anemone had a tall and handsome representative of the part as played by Miss Edith Williams. Miss Muriel Henderson made a vivacious Princess Kerina. Lieut. Bowline had a sprightly representative in Miss Vivien Stafford, and other pleasing young ladies were Misses Stella Kiernan, M. Vernon, Grace Elsworthy, M. Marmont, Lillian Corri, Winifred Edmonds, Adeline Webb and D. Lorraine.

Mr. Edward Lewis played the part of Will Atkins in the usual burlesque fashion. At the beginning he was the typical "bold, bad buccaneer," but Mr. Lewis soon gave way to his characteristic love of drollery, and he proved to be a merry villain withal, and his eccentric business, combined with a comical lack of success in his crafty plotting, ends in making "the bad man of the play" a favourite with old and young. Mr. Kit Keen, a perfect artist in his particular line, made a decided success in his original impersonation of Friday. In the Hut scene a charming scena was presented by Mr. Keen, assisted by an intelligent chorus of twenty little girls, featuring "In Tennessee." Fred Conquest made a big hit as Pretty Poll, and his introduction of the famous "Demon Head" was a novelty to the major part of the audience. Mr. Bert Worth was a gentlemanly Demon King, and he earned the forgiveness of all for his splendid rendering of operatic songs. The well-known comedy duo Messrs. Woodhouse and Wells were funny sailor-men, and their patter and smart dancing were received with hearty applause. Mr. Vaughan Bracking, as Billy, was very amusing. Mr. Cecil Morton York made a most imposing and dramatic King Kalibombast. Last but not least was that popular comedian Mr. Lawrence Barclay, who kept the big house in roars of laughter all the time he was on the stage, and in song, business, and comical make-up his portrayal of Mrs. Crusoe was genuinely funny. The "book" was written by Mr. J. J. Hewson. The scenery is from the ateliers of D. G. Hall, R. C. Oldham and R. C. Browne. The incidentals and ballet music were composed and arranged by Henri Jaxon, A. Green, Gordon Hart and G. Chapman. Costumes designed by M. Comelli. Wigs by W. Clarkson. The charming ballets and processions, &c., have been invented by Lizette Kitchen, and the whole produced under the direction of Mr. Ivan Capell, under the immediate supervision of Mr. John Hart, with the help and connivance of Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT NOTTINGHAM.

There is additional interest in the production of "Dick Whittington" at the Grand Theatre in that the pantomime is written and rehearsed by Mrs. F. G. Kamberley, the authoress of a number of dramas. Two other noteworthy features are that the name part is undertaken by Mrs. Kimberley's seventeen years old daughter, and that the Dame's part is taken by a lady. The two performances on Boxing Day met with enthusiastic receptions from capacity houses.

The familiar story is followed fairly closely, and provides an entertainment in which fun and frivolity abound without any approach to vulgarity. There are nine scenes, opening with an excellent view of Holborn in the old days, Ludgate Hill of the same period, a well-devised set called Fitzwarren's Emporium, Wapping Stairs, in which the ship looms largely, Highgate Hill, a delightful woodland scene, The Shores of Morocco, and the Palace of the Emperor, a fitting finale. The composers, Messrs. George Ridding and George Day, have done their work well, supplying some bright and catchy music. The dresses are pretty, tasteful, and good.

Miss Ruby Kimberley makes a charming representative of Dick, her fine presence, admirable acting, and sweet singing gaining warm acknowledgments. "My Home in Kentucky" is given with dainty effect, while "You've Had Another Night" is rendered by Miss Kimberley with a vivacity that earns its reward. Her pretty and dainty sweetheart, Alice, is winsomely played by Miss Betty Hare, who deserves hearty congratulations on her spirited rendering of the Dutch song, "Baggy Breeches," with an accompanying clever dance. Miss Mona Wells, as Hubert, makes a hit with the cheery "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty." Priscilla and Rosemary are capitally enacted by Miss May Elise and Miss Nellie Stuart, while a sweet little Fairy Queen is seen in Little Florence. Miss Nell Adair gives an animated and meritorious impersonation of the Demon Rat, and Miss Lilly Clifford makes a pleasing and effective Princess of Morocco.

A wealth of fund is disbursed by the comedians. Miss Bella Moody is a conspicuous success as the Cook, revealing the true spirit of comedy. She is principally associated with Mr. Teddy Worth, who, as Idle Jack, is a constant source of merriment. He has a diverting song in "I never felt so silly in my life," while Miss Moody brings out the smiles in the merry ditty, "Down on the Farm." The rôle of Fitzwarren is humorously sustained by Mr. Jack Jewell, Mr. Harry Harrald adds a strong and vigorous portraiture of the Emperor, and the quaint eccentricities of Messrs. Malone and Conchy raise many a laugh. Mr. Henry Poncheroy gives a clever study of the Cat, and the Rat is aptly assumed by Mr. Bertie Poncheroy, while neat dancing is shown by the Five Weetmans. Mr. George Ridding conducts with care and precision, and the stage management of Mr. Harry Harrald ensures a smooth performance.

"SINBAD THE SAILOR" AT BATH.

Messrs. Fred Clements and Donald Keir, who are presenting this year's pantomime, are to be congratulated on staging a seasonable entertainment, that pleases the eye, charms the ear, and, best of all, amuses both young and old. Divided into two parts and nine scenes, the whole show runs with marked smoothness, and Mr. Albert E. Mann, who is entrusted with the responsible duties of stage manager, deserves every credit for the heavy work he must have put in to achieve such satisfactory results. The scenery, from the brush of Mr. A. Toole, is truly effective in colour and design. The costumes, entirely fresh, are charming in their blending of colour, and the book is by Frank Ayrton, who tells the popular legend in smart and witty lines, and the music, arranged by Mr. G. D. Fox (who conducts), contains several of the popular song successes of the day. The cast is a good all-round combination. Miss Prue Purl is an ideal principal boy, her Sinbad being full of good points. She sings well, acts with much sprightliness, and dances with easy abandon. She has certain winners in "Five Days' Leave" and "You Are My Precious Baby." Miss Dorothy Rosslyn as Lorilda makes a pleasing principal girl. The comedians are headed by Mr. Harry East, who puts in plenty of amusing work as Sinbad. He gets the audience to join with him in "A Little Bit of Cucumber," which quickly catches the popular fancy. The Mrs. Sinbad of Mr. Jack Lennard is an excellent embodiment, and he scores with his ditties, "Bow, Bow" and "Oh, John" (with effective patter). Newco and Sulib prove themselves clever knockabout comedians, always doing their utmost to keep the fun moving. Mr. George James as the Captain is also to the fore. Mr. Donald Keir himself impersonates the Emperor, and his baritone voice is heard to advantage in the "Sons of the Desert." Miss Odette Valdemar is well placed as the Princess; Miss Donald Kempton (Selim) and Miss Daphne Malfair (Zuleika) lend capital support; Miss Margaret Glanville as the Fairy Lustra sings a waltz song delightfully, for which she is justly recalled; and Mr. Albert E. Mann gives a graphic sketch of the Old Man of the Sea. Specialities are introduced by Miss Pauline Rivers' "Amethysts," twelve charming little dots, who dance admirably, and lend valuable assistance throughout each scene they appear in. Terry Methigh, a youthful local boy vocalist, is sure of an encore for his contributions. The Brewster Quintette of Dancers arouse enthusiasm for their agile acrobatic dancing. The Scotch interlude by Keir and Kempton, in which the bagpipes and vocal duets are introduced, wins them a hearty recall.

MISS JENNIE LYNWOOD.
Principal Boy, "Mother Hubbard."
DALSTON THEATRE.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT WAKEFIELD.

Mr. Ventom Cwift produced "Babes in the Wood" at the Empire, Wakefield, on Christmas Day, and the pantomime drew crowded houses during the week. Mr. Randolph Sutton, a great favourite here, undertook the rôle of principal boy, and infused much go and dash into the part, singing his various numbers in excellent style. Mr. Frank Leigh worked hard as the Baron, and kept the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Dan Lawley was highly amusing as the Dame, and the parts of the Robbers were ably undertaken by Messrs. King and King. Miss Florence Mather made a handsome Fairy Sunshine, Miss Kitty Shaw was a dashing Will Scarlett, Miss Marion Low a very pleasing Marjory Daw, Miss Dorothy King and Miss Norah Beckett were charming as the Babes, and Miss Olive Aubrey was a dainty Maid Marion, singing and acting well. The costumes were elaborate and the scenery pretty and effective. The book is by Mr. Bert H. Delmar, and the tuneful music has been composed and arranged by Mr. A. Blackburn, who ably wielded the baton.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT LEEDS.

"Goody Two Shoes" which four years ago proved the most successful pantomime ever put on at the Grand, was revived there on Christmas Eve by general request of a number of patrons, and if the promise of the first night holds good another great success seems assured. The book, which is written by R. C. Oldham, who is also responsible for most of the beautiful and elaborate scenery, is witty, and not too wordy. The overture, incidental music, and special numbers, are arranged, selected, and composed by Henri Jaxon and R. W. Watt, with additional numbers by Gordon Hart. The pantomime is produced under the stage direction of A. E. Dodson. The cast is a clever and well-balanced one. As Alan, the principal boy, Miss Daisy Wood is vivacious and sprightly, and scores greatly with her number, "We'll all have a holiday in the summertime." Miss Daisy Dormer is dainty and clever as Goody, giving delightful renderings of many attractive numbers, especially successful being "Tennessee." The comedians are Lupino Lane as Clarence, who goes great guns with his acrobatic dances and his quaint and humorous rendering of "I've had a glass of ginger wine," and Horace Mills as Mrs. Tutt. Mr. Mills is an ideal dame, and his gags and patter, quietly and cleverly rendered, evoke roars of laughter. The two great humorous scenes of the show are paperhanging a room in the first half, and the aeroplane scene in the second half of the panto. Mr. Lane and Mr. Mills in these scenes provide a veritable orgie of laughter. Other parts skilfully played are Zoe, the second girl, by Miss Dolli Booth, who charms everyone with her rendering of "The bells of St. Malo"; Miss Maud Diamond, second boy; Miss Doris Lind, as the Duchess; Miss Marie Dix as the Fairy (scoring with "Some night, some waltz, some girl"); Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie as the Wizard; Mr. Roper Lane as the Mayor; Mr. Roland Mayne as the Demon; and Mr. Laurence Caird as the Duke. The reputation of the Grand for ballets is worthily upheld by the Flower Ballet and the "Bal de Poudre" in the first half, and the celebrated "Toyland" ballet in the second half. Of the eleven scenes, "The Village of Blossomville," "Goody's Reception," "Toyland," and "The Palace Grounds," stand out. A word of praise should be given to Mr. H. Walker, the property master, for his clever mechanical effects, including a wonderful "tank."

"JACK AND JILL" AT PLYMOUTH.

Mr. Glover's fifth annual Christmas pantomime, at the Theatre Royal, is undoubtedly a pronounced success. The cast is a very talented one, and in some scenes as many as 100 people are on the stage. "Jack and Jill" is a pantomime with wholesome humour, fascinating music, charming dresses, and most excellent dances. All the latest and topical songs are sung, and a special feature is the music by Herman Finck. The local sketches are interesting and amusing, and altogether there are eighteen scenes, all of which are beautifully staged. The revival—especially for children—of the old-fashioned harlequinade, brought up to date, is much appreciated by young and old alike.

The specialities include, amongst others, those Plymouth favourites, the Manchester Mites, with their drum and bugle band; expert dancing and military drill; a male quartette in concerted numbers; the Delevines, acrobats; a real beauty chorus, and the Excelsior Ballet. The authors, Messrs. John Tiller and Arthur Sturgess, have worked on usual lines.

Miss Kitty Storrow, a delightful principal boy, vivacious, charming and sparkling, captivates all by her clever performance, and Miss Eillean Desmond as principal girl, Miss Gertrude Clegg and Miss Vanwy Chard, as second boy and second girl, are all that could be desired. Especially delightful are Miss Edith Harley and Miss Millie Cox in the two title rôles.

The fun of the evening is well sustained by Fred Walmsley, Frank Powell and Geo. Millar—the last-named deserving especial mention for a tip-top performance. As the Fairy Queen, Miss Ivy St. Clair also contributes valuably to the success. Altogether a first-rate production, with not too many war references, and sufficient patriotic sentiment, excellent fun, artistic lighting and scenic effects, really beautiful dresses, and tuneful music. The producer, Mr. J. Tiller, is to be congratulated on the smoothness of the production; the chorus is capital, the grouping, dressing, and singing being above the usual. "Jack and Jill" is, indeed, a pantomime quite out of the ordinary in the most complimentary meaning of the word.

PRESENTATION TO MR. W. C. SIMPSON.

The principal theatrical touring managers and a few friends have combined together to present to Mr. W. C. Simpson, who recently retired from the Great Western Railway after a service of 46 years, with a massive gold hunter watch, suitably inscribed, and a handsome silver tea service, as a token of esteem and regard, and in recognition of his unfailing courtesy in his business relations with them.

Owing to the difficulty of arranging a meeting of managers the articles were delivered at Mr. Simpson's house with the following ornamentally printed communication containing a list of the subscribers and committee:—

A presentation of a gold watch and tea service to W. C. Simpson, as a small token of regard from the principal touring managers and a few other friends. The occasion being upon his retirement from the Great Western Railway Company.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Aldin, Arthur	Hutchison, Percy
Arthur, Mr.	Irving, H. B.
Barth, Cecil	Knox, A.
Bellamy, H. E.	Lyons, Arthur
Benson, Sir Frank	Martin, William
Brandreth, B.	Moreton and Heath
Bull, E. H.	Neilson, Julia
Butt, Alfred	Nicholls, A.
Carte, R. D'Oyly	O'Neill, F. B.
Chute, Mrs.	Osmond, Fred
Collet, Richard	Pigott, A. S.
Davis, Tom B.	Platt, E. Taylor
Draco, George	Ralland, Herbert
Draco, K.	Redford, Robert
Ellis and Jay	Ross, F. Clive
Evett, Robert	Seddon, W. Payne
Falcon, E. Graham	Stuart, Otho
Garrett, Arthur	Terry, Fred
Gerald, J. H.	Thomas, Mrs. Brandon
Gregory, George	Tye, Reg.
Grey, Allen	"Uncle" (Yorick Club)
Hamund, St. John	Williams, Charles
Harrington, Charles	Withers, Frank
Harvey, Martin	Wright, James
Hicks, Seymour	
Hodges, Horace	

COMMITTEE.

Bellamy, H. E.	O'Neill, Frank B.
Collet, Richard	Pigott, A. S. (hon. sec.)
Draco, Kay	
Garrett, Arthur	

Mr. Simpson desires through our columns to convey his most hearty thanks to the subscribers, the committee, and to Mr. A. S. Pigott, hon. sec., for their great kindness in making him this handsome presentation, which he thoroughly appreciates, and will always highly prize amongst his most treasured possessions. Mr. Simpson hopes he may retain the many esteemed friendships he has formed during his connection with the theatrical business, in which he will always be greatly interested.

Harry Luck gave no fewer than seven shows on Boxing Day—four at the Canterbury and, by the kind permission of Mr. Brickwell, three shows at the Surrey, where he was retained all the week.

Starting on New Year's Day, Mr. Alfred Butt has inaugurated a Monday matinée at the Palace to be given every week, in addition to the usual Wednesday and Saturday afternoon performances of "Vanity Fair."

ACTORS' DAY FUND.

Although little has been heard of Actors' Day Fund since war broke out, it has been none the less active during the past two years, doing excellent service in the interests of its members. It will be remembered that the Board decided that, in consequence of the war, no collection would be held in 1914. This decision was, of course, to relieve members from the obligation to subscribe to the Fund at a time when many of them might have found it very difficult to do so, and the Board have seen no reason to alter their views within the last two years.

Below will be found the balance-sheet for the two years ending September, 1916, which has been sent us by Cadet Bombardier Henry Ainley as chairman of the Advisory Board.

"Although no collection has been made since 1913," writes Mr. Ainley, "we are grateful to say that we have been able to make grants and loans to members, and in no single case have refused to consider and deal as generously as possible with all the applications we have received.

"The balance-sheet shows that, although the present difficult conditions have made abnormal demands on the resources of the Fund, there is still a balance that should encourage old members to continue to subscribe and new members to join the Fund.

"Next year, 1917, and the succeeding years, the Board will hold the usual October collection for the Fund."

ACTORS' DAY FUND.
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT, OCTOBER 1, 1914, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1916.

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Oct. 1, 1914.		
Balance from last account—		
Cash at Bank on Current Account	99 3 3	
Cash in hand	17 4 3	
Investments at cost	997 2 3	
		1,113 9 9
Sept. 30, 1916.		
Interest on Investments		65 8 11
		£1,178 18 8

PAYMENTS, ETC.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Grants and Loans	61 9 6	
Less Return of Loans	55 14 0	
		5 15 6
Sundries—		
Rent and Cleaning	55 8 0	
Salaries	52 0 0	
Telephone and Gas	13 15 6	
Printing	0 12 6	
Postage	0 14 3	
Miscellaneous	6 3 2	
		128 13 5
Depreciation of Investments Sept. 30, 1916.		185 12 3
Cash Balances and Investments—		
Cash at Bank on Current Account	40 5 0	
Cash in hand	7 2 6	
Investments at current value	811 10 0	
		858 17 6
		£1,178 18 8

Investments at lowest market price on September 29, 1916:

	£ s. d.
£200 Quebec City 4% Bonds @ 89	178 0 0
£250 New Zealand 4% Stock, 1943–1963, @ 83	207 10 0
£300 Chinese 4½% Gold Bonds, 1898, @ 79½	238 10 0
1,000 Grs. Dutch 3% Bonds @ 75	62 10 0
2,000 Grs. do.	125 0 0
	£811 10 0

HENRY AINLEY, Chairman of Advisory Board.
WILLIAM G. FAY, Hon. Secretary.

The above Account has been compiled from the Books and other records of the Fund and information supplied by the Honorary Secretary, and is in accordance therewith. The Cash and Investments of the Fund are certified to be in hand (a) as to Cash at Bank and three denominations of Bonds to bearer by the Bankers, and (b) as to New Zealand Stock by the Bank of England.

SAYERS & WESSON, Chartered Accountants, Hon. Auditors.
19, Hanover Square, London, W., October 19, 1916.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT HANLEY.

There were two packed houses on Boxing Day at the Royal, Hanley, to welcome Mr. Leon Salberg's pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," which Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone has arranged to run for a season. The book is smartly written by Messrs. William De Lacy and Martin Byam, and the music composed, selected, and orchestrated by Mr. Herbert Barnes. Mr. William Holland has produced the pantomime, and the greatest credit reflects on him for his successful efforts. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Caffyn Baxter, also deserves warm praise for its excellent work. The scenery, by Stafford Hall, W. T. Hemsley, and Reginald Cooper, is most artistic and gorgeous, and the mechanical effects are also excellent. The chorus ladies and their pretty dresses are greatly admired. Miss Mabel Costello, is the principal boy, and her Jack is the talk of the Potteries. Her vocal efforts meet with unstinted applause. Her best numbers are "There's work to be done," a duet with Miss Ellestree; "You are a cuddlesome girl"; and "When I leave this world behind." The Princess is Miss Monica Ellestree, a refined and dignified lady, with a charm of manner that wins all hearts. Miss Dora Frank Harvey (Prince Peerless) and Miss May Edney (Dorothy) are a pretty and clever pair, and their duet, "Fancy you fancying me," promises to be a great hit. Miss May Shill, the Fairy, has a winning manner, and an excellent voice under capital control. Miss Jenny Lamonte does all that is required with success. Mr. Tom Nelson as Muggins was an instantaneous success, and will make even more of his part as time goes on. Others on the comic side are Mr. Jack Sennol, whose dame is already decidedly funny, and Mr. Charles Resti, who, as King Kollywobble, is responsible for much genuine hilarity. Mr. R. F. Symons, the giant, and Messrs. France and Frances as the giant's twins and the cow, deserve warm praise. The Lottie Stone Troupe of dancers are enthusiastically applauded.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT READING.

The Christmas pantomime at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, is "Dick Whittington and His Cat," which was produced on Boxing Day with great success, under the direction of Geo. Brydon-Phillips. As general manager Mr. Frank Irwin has worked most assiduously in superintending and perfecting the work of production. The pantomime opens with The Belfry of Bow Bells, the succeeding scenes representing Olde Cheapside, Fitzwarren's Stores, On the Road to Highgate (where the fun runs fast and furious), Highgate Hill (which is a very pretty scene), Wapping Old Stairs, The Open Sea, the Wreck, and the Raft, A Japanese Garden, and the final scene is an elaborate and most effective set, The Palace of the Emperor of Japan. The scenery has been specially painted for the production by W. T. Helmsley; the dresses are by H. and M. Rayne and Mrs. Perret; the music is arranged by Charles W. Johnson; and orchestra under the direction of Harry Richardson. Specialities are introduced by Kitty Denton's Eight Sunshines, Hyde and Hilton, Sisters Ray, and Anderson and Nash.

An excellent company has been engaged. Miss Blanche Marion is charming in the title-rôle; Miss Nellie Anderson as Jack Mainbrace; Miss Renee Ray as Polly Pert; Miss Dora Ray as the Princess, Miss Queenie Crake as Alice; and Miss Dorothy Gould as the Fairy Bow Bell all sustain their parts in excellent style. The comedy element is well catered for by Leslie Rose as the Cook, Pat Nash as Jack Idle, and Hyde and Hilton as Captain Spanker and the Stevedore. Miss Pattie O'Brien acts effectively as the Emperor of Japan, Stanley C. Harles is good as Ko-Ki-Ti, Edward Delome is a capital Alderman Fitzwarren, and Harold Mel is a realistic King Rat. An excellent chorus do full justice to the musical items, which include "Take me back to dear old Blighty" and other popular vocal favourites.

SHEARD'S
GREAT
PANTOMIME SUCCESSES.

"THERE'S A LIGHT SHINING BRIGHT IN A WINDOW TO-NIGHT."
(Chorus Ballad.)

"TOMMY TUCKER TOOK THE TIN OF TASTY TINNED TOMATOES."
(Comedy.)

"IT'S COURTING TIME."
(Comedy.)

C. SHEARD & CO., 196, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.

A NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

To all our friends both near and far
A message we would send—
No matter what your troubles are,
May this year see their end.

Although last year has been a strain
To all of us in some way,
None of us relief would gain
By making each a "glum" day.

A simple gift, a friendly smile,
A little kindness shown,
May cause us to forget awhile
The Sorrow we have known.

LUSH & COOK, Ltd.

John Bell
MANAGER,
THEATRICAL DEPARTMENT.

29, CHARING CROSS ROAD,
Gerrard, 9580. LONDON, W.C.

New Year, 1917.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

(Continued from p. 9.)

READING.

COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton.—Mr. George Grossmith and Mr. Edward Lauriliard present "Mr. Manhattan."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons, Ltd.; Manageress, Mrs. M. A. Simmons.—Nellie Wallace; Roze and Calvert; Francisco, equilibrist and juggler; Godfrey Pariss, Lancashire comedian; Tremper Sisters, equilibrists and dancers; Spalding and Vanguard, aerial comedy gymnasts; Elsie Denham, comedienne; Phil Rees' Little Coppers; and Pathé's Gazette.

Boors, The Chemists, 91, Broad-street; 2, Duke-street.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—There were good houses on Monday and again last night, when Messrs. Horsfield and Woodward's company presented the strong drama, "Within the Law." The piece was admirably staged, and Miss Myfanwy James evoked great enthusiasm by her splendid portrayal of the character of Margaret Taylor.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, Senr.—The Gothams, in a burlesque comedy vocal act; Mr. Hymack, "At Bogey Villa"; Leslie Carter, in mirth and melody; F. V. St. Clair, in new songs; Four Phil Ascots, in terpsichorean specialities; Gordon Ray Trio, in comedy act "The Broker"; Marie Lawton, harpist and pianist; the Sutcliffe Family, clever entertainers; and pictures.

EMPIRE HALL.—P., Jackson's Amusements, Ltd.; M., Mr. Albert Jones.—Sara Rosebury, Lancashire lass, in song and story; Cornetti Trio, in a musical and vocal act; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE. — Sole L., The Northern Theatres Co. Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company presents "Just a Little Pair of Shoes."

Boors, The Chemists, 42, Drake-street; 59, 61, Yorkshire-street.

RUGBY.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. B. Morris.—Jack Clifford and company, in Scotch comedy sketch, "A Good Idea"; Stanley Car, comedian and entertainer; Elizabeth Davies, contralto; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 26 and 27, High-st.

SALFORD.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Tom Vernon presents "Little Bo-Peep," with Olga Forby as Boy Blue and Jimmy Pullin as Johnny Stout. Specialities by Lottie Stone's Troupe of Dancers, Sisters Holman, the Juniors, and the Eight Merry Belles.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry.—Zona Vevey and Max Erard in their unique musical act.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Tom Sherlock, tenor vocalist; pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 277, Chapel-street; 91 Regent-road.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Crowded houses continue to enjoy Barrie's charming play, "Peter Pan." Old and young alike thoroughly enter into the humour and picturesque setting of this reasonable fantasy. The company is under the direction of Mr. J. A. E. Malone.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. & T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. M. Mahony.—Mr. John Hart's brilliant annual, "Robinson Crusoe," has caught on, and the Royal will be filled for many nights.

EMPIRE.—P., The Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—One of the latest revues is "Hip, Hip, Hooray," which was presented to a large and evidently well-pleased audience on Monday. The mise-en-scene is first rate, and a competent company includes Joseph Victor, Dorothy Hart, Nora Dwyer, and George Clarke. The chorus and ballet add to the brightness of the entertainment. Also engaged are Gus Harris, dramatic vocalist; Zellini, burlesque juggler; and Shawline, whistler.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells.—A special item in the New Year's programme is Mr. Pattman's novel organ, and Miss Marie Ambrose, from the Royal Albert Hall. Ben Taylor and Bonnie Browning, in a pleasing comedietta, "A Rustic Romance"; J. P. Ling, vocal comedian; Benoudo, Delino, and Gilbert Payne, character humorist.

OXFORD.—P., The Oxford, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—"The Sleeping Beauty," concluding with comic pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Snigg hill; 252-54, West-street, and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Neiberthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 36, Spittal-hill; 234, Shalesmoor; 183, Attercliffe-common; 760-2-4, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 2-4, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road, Heeley-bridge; 232, South-street, Moor; 652, Stanforth-road, Darnall; 129, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SHREWSBURY.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE. — Miss Ethel van Praagh's and Mr. J. Edward Whitty's company are here playing "The Eyes of the World" and "The Laughter of Fools." In the first-mentioned play Miss Van Praagh, in her original creation Helena del Orme, is most attractive; Miss Marie Clavering, in the rôle of Esme de Charnac, making the most of her opportunities; Miss Jean Stanley is pleasing as Susanne Pomfleur; Mr. J. Edward Whitty as Achille Fanfarade acts with marked talent; Mr. Harry Aynsleigh makes a capital Hector del'Orme; Mr. E. W. Bretton acts exceedingly well as Garston de Carnac; Mr. St. John Medley is a dignified Paul de Roquevalle. Other parts are well played.

Boors, The Chemists, 7, Pride-hill.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—Messrs. Dallas and Casson present the successful musical comedy, "Miss Hook of Holland." The company includes Mr. E. Russell, Mr. E. Selvage, Mr. P. Wilfred, Mr. Sam Lockridge, Miss Winifred May, Miss Daisy Grace, and Miss Cissie Seohton (a great local favourite).

THE PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Will Burnand, in character studies; Clifton and Miss Daisy; Tom E. Hughes; Great and Good, comedy acrobats; Five Wilburs, dancing and singing act; Lawrence Wright ensemble; Charles Hart; and the Three Morrellys.

HIPPODROME. — R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—The company here are Ernie Lotinga and company in a comedy sketch Daisy Stratton, comedienne; Gaumond Bros., acrobats; Norman White; Ragolio the Kratons; and David Poole, ventriloquist.

Boors, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 67, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 103, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois Hill.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Messrs. F. and H. Reeves' "Water Birds"; A. H. Woods, in ball-punching act; Arthur Gilroy, comedian; Ruffles' Bioscope.

Boors, The Chemists, 130, High-street; Leigh-on-Sea: 89, The Broadway.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson; S., Miss F. Black.—J. C. Carlyle's company in Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's latest play, "Back Home in Tennessee."

EMPIRE.—P., The South Shields Empire Palace, Ltd.; M.D., Mr. R. Thornton; G.M., Mr. Frank Allen; B.M., Mr. Harry Esden; R.M., Mr. Edwin Winter.—Beryl Clifford, "Scotch and Cockney."

Boors, The Chemists, 39, King-street

STIRLING.

ALHAMBRA.—R. M., Mr. Jack M. Culler.—The Original Coopers, jugglers; J. G. Aitken, comedian; Nellie Nell, baton swinger; Sisters Embert, dancers; Edward and Selby, Hebrew delineators; Peto and Isa Campbell, vocalists.

PUBLIC HALL.—R. M., Mr. W. Pearson.—Alfred Denville and company in "Annie Laurie."

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. William Revill.—R. Nightingale, Ltd.'s pantomime, "Aladdin" continues here its remarkable success of last week.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Will Sley; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—The Phil Ascot Four, in terpsichorean speciality; O'Brien and Lady, comedy acrobats; Brazilian Trio, coloured comedy musical act; Mlle. Cameo, presenting living marble studies; Maude Walters, comedienne and dancer; the Montagues, in speciality act; and "The Silver Wedding" Co., in vocal scena.

Boors, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-street, Brow.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Alderman J. Batty; M., Mr. W. Batty.—Maisie Rosslyn, with her "Would You Believe It?" revue.

HIPPODROME.—P., North E. Entertainments, Ltd.; M., Mr. G. Stainton.—Denziloe Trio, in musical ensemble; Mizaka, Japanese conjuring troupe; Maisie Stirling and Florence Richmond, duettists; Bert Bradford, patter songs; Les Manuel Francois' "Recreation in a Gymnasium"; the 4 Astors, dancing marvels; and Edward Edwards and company in "Fooling the Parson."

Boors, The Chemists, 104 and 105, High-street.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., David Allen and Sons; L., Miss Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. T. Bygone.—Messrs. Windermere and Hodgon present "Potash and Perlmutter."

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Gwydr-terrace, Uplands; 1 and 2, Oxford-street, and 8, Goat-street; 60, High-street; 82, Brynymour-road.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearce.—Rarely has such a successful week's business been done as was done here last week by Mr. Martin Harvey and his company in "David Garrick." Full houses at every performance testified their appreciation of the celebrated actor's masterful interpretation. This week Mr. Harold Ralding's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," occupies the boards.

Boors, The Chemists, 45 and 49, Fleet-street.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—Miss Madge Grey and Co. in "Our Kid."

EMPIRE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—Herbert Ray presents "The Carnival Girl," Maisie McIntyre, Rene Ray, and Charlie Bell.

PLAYHOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Sydney Tolree.—Sinclair Neil's company in "The Touch of the Child"; Doris Broughton, vocalist; Lily and Madge Williams, vocalists; Zaoma, gymnast; Frank H. Fox, comedian; Austin Webb and Dandy Page, comedians.

Boors, The Chemists, 18, Market-place.

WALLSEND.

BOROUGH THEATRE. — L., Messrs. Black Bros.; M., Mr. Arthur E. Holland.—Cole and Rags, the Edivictas, Jim Nolan. Pictures complete.

TYNE THEATRE. — P. & M., Mr. T. McHarg.—"The Greater Need" and other pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, corner of Station-road and High-street.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Bert Proud; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—Mr. Harry Burns submits "Nights of Gladness," the cast including Winnie Collins, Maud Esmond, Gladys Knight, Gaby Condor, Carter Livesey, Tom Shenton, and Uty Rowlands. Other specialities are by Master Jas. Garnett and Wilson and Ernie.

PALACE.—P., Bros. Black; M., Mr. J. D. Robertson.—The varieties are by the Alexanders in an instrumental, singing and dancing act, and Ben Barrow, comedian; pictures supplement.

Boors, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street.

WEYMOUTH.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. E. Wheeler.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company in "Niobe."

Boors, The Chemists, 69-70, St. Mary-street.

WORKINGTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. James Bailiff; M., Mr. John Bailiff.—Rex Fox and Mary in wire-walking performance, &c.; Jazo, violinist; and Miss Cecila Holden. Pictures complete.

CARNEGIE HALL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; G. M., Mr. Morris Maud.—The Five Grates, Anglo-Japanese tumblers and hand balancers; Bruce and Iris Clare, humorous entertainers; and pictures.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—S. L. & M., Mr. E. H. Bull.—J. F. Elliston and Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Cinderella," is in the second week of its run here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Kimberleys, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. Edwin T. Kisby; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Mr. Oswald Cray presents "The Wife with Two Husbands," prominent in the cast being Mr. Clinton Baggeley and Miss Daisy Cook.

EMPIRE.—S. L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. J. H. Hyslop.—Lew Lake presents the musical extravaganza, "They Didn't Want to Do It." Cast includes Charlie Rich, Freddie Malcolm, W. E. Phillips, Forest Tell, Ada Terry, Claude Gardner, Dorothy Wheeler and Elsie Robey; Les Beaties, in a singing and dancing scena; and the Mezzettis, comedy bar performers, also appear.

Boors, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

YORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—Ray Brothers present "The Devonshire Girl," Les Merzopt, the Carlton Ladies' Trio, Morris St. Clair; and pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; G. M., Mr. Wallace Stranack.—T. C. Dagnall's company, in "The Little Minister."

Boors, The Chemists, 30, Coney-street.

"A MOTHER'S PRAYER."

Play, by Eva Elwes ("Pals"), Produced at the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, on Dec. 26.

Sir Thomas Warner, K.C.B. — T. Edward Ward
Capt. Benjn. Oake, R.N. — Charles March
Midshipman Jas. Medway, R.N. — Theo Hook
Dan Medway ..... Stanley Villiers
Bill Breezley, A.B. .... Harry Tilbury
Marine ..... William Shepherd
Footman ..... Mr. Wilfred Stanhope
Lizzie Packer.... Miss Cissie Cleveland
Flossie Oake .... Miss Dorothy Grafton
Lady Millicent Warner — Miss Madge Trevelyan
Mrs. Mary Medway — Miss Cissie St. Elmo

This is a very attractive play, and as it has a strong naval flavour throughout it has appealed to Lowestoft theatre goers, who gave their extensive patronage on its production at the Marina Theatre last week. The story is interesting and constructed on rather novel lines. Mrs. Medway, whom everyone believes to be a widow, has a son, James, who is a midshipman in the Royal Navy. Mrs. Medway is not a widow, but the wife of a scoundrel, Dan Medway, who has done time, and is out on ticket-of-leave. He turns up soon after Captain Oake has proposed to Mrs. Medway, who tells him she cannot wed. Despite the refusal, Captain Oake says he will stand her friend "through fair weather and foul." Then James Medway comes home, after a narrow escape from drowning owing to his ship having been torpedoed in a North Sea "scrap." The boy and his mother are very happy together, when Dan Medway looms up, and this leads to a good deal of the trouble. Complications ensue through Lady Warner's desire to adopt a youth in the place of her dead son. Young James Medway fills the vacancy, but has lost his memory through a blow struck by his rascally father. His memory is, however, eventually restored. The villainous Dan Medway quarrels with Lady Warner, and is killed by her, leaving his widow free to marry Captain Oake, while James has already become friendly with the Captain's daughter, Flossie.

The play is well staged in four scenes, which includes the Captain's cabin in a battleship in war time. Miss Cissie St. Elmo did admirable work as Mrs. Medway—pathetic and dignified, but never exaggerating. Captain Oake was well played by Mr. Charles March, who looks the part to perfection. Mr. T. Edward Ward, like the sterling actor he is, gave a capital portrayal of the peppery Sir Thos. Warner, and Stanley Villiers was forceful and sinister as the ticket-of-leave man. Miss Cissie Cleveland as Lizzie Packer, and Mr. Harry Tilbury as Bill Breezeley are a funny couple, and caused roars of laughter by their combined comedy. Miss Dorothy Grafton was vivacious as Flossie Oake, and was very delightful disguised as a midshipman. Miss Madge Trevelyan made the most of her part, and was altogether successful. The minor characters, filled by Mr. William Shepherd and Mr. Wilfred Stanhope were also in safe hands.

Mr. Reg. Wishart, the society entertainer, is down with a severe attack of pleurisy, and is at present in a nursing home.

No less than thirty students of Abbott's Orchestral School have gained good appointments during the last three months. The school is patronised by former pupils of Mark Hambourg, the Royal Academy, &c., and the main object is to train violinists and pianists to be first-class leaders. The organ is also taught

A PANTOMIME "SPECIALIST."

Mr. George M. Slater, who has personally produced the pantomime, "Boy Blue," specially written by him for Mr. Philip Rodway, of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, this Christmas (where he has for the past three years been responsible for the staging of three tremendous Christmas successes), is one of the most experienced producers of the "good old annuale." For some years general manager and pantomime producer at the Opera House, Leicester, during the proprietorship of Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley, he was afterwards stage manager at the Gaiety Theatre, London, and for a number of years general manager of the Gaiety Theatre companies on tour. Remarkable attention to every detail is marked in all of the pantomimes which he has personally produced.

This season Mr. Slater has written the following pantomimes:—"The House That Jack Built," for Messrs. Wylie and Tate,

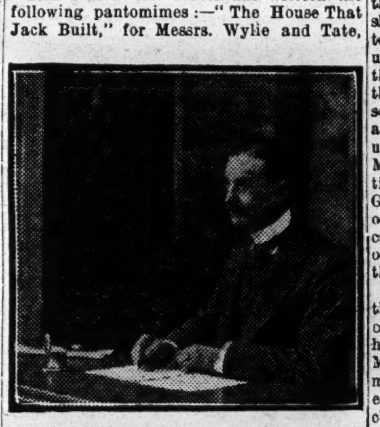


Photo by J. Herbert Wilson, Leicester.
MR. GEO. M. SLATER.

at the Palladium, London, which was also simultaneously produced by Messrs. Williamson, Ltd., at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, Australia; "The Babes in the Wood," for Mr. Milton Bode, at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, and (in collaboration with Austen Hurgon and Herbert C. Sargent a version of "Cinderella," produced by Mr. Austen Hurgon at the London Opera House. In past years he has written (among many others) "Red Riding Hood," produced at the Grand Theatre, Hull; "Peter Piper," at the Opera House, Belfast; "Puss in Boots," at the New Theatre, Cardiff, and at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, and at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool; and "Aladdin," at New Theatre, Cardiff, also produced at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, and at Kennington Theatre, London.

Mr. Slater is also associated as agent with Mr. C. St. John Denton in the business of Denton's Theatrical Agency, and at the conclusion of the pantomime season thinks of undertaking general production work in London. His long experience and extensive knowledge of every branch of theatrical business, from scene designing to colour schemes, costume in every detail, his accomplishments as lyric writer and litterateur, and his artistic handling of every style of stage entertainment, should prove of the utmost value to any management.

"THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM."

Anybody interested in the origin of the British drama should visit the Royal Victoria Hall this week, where Mr. Ben Greet is presenting this wonderful old fifteenth century mystery play. It is a queer thought that from such quaint beginnings has sprung the modern drama.

There are eight episodes in this production, the first being the appearance to the shepherds, into which is interposed a curious touch of mediæval drama, the story of the unfaithful herdsman, and the clever sheep-thief who outwitted them. The second is the meeting of the Magi and their subsequent encounter with Herod the King; and the last is the following of the star until it leads to the Adoration at the Manger. Each part is preceded by a beautiful and edifying prologue by the Angel Gabriel, and the exquisite placed postures of the angels surrounding him like delicious Fra Angelico pictures, and the glorious spoken lines were the best things in the play.

The actors, we felt, had really caught the spirit of the Middle Ages, and this was especially the case with the three Shepherds, acted by Arthur Fayne, Leonard Mackaray, and Geoffrey Wilkinson, who might well have been mediæval guildsmen enacting the parts on a festival day. A clever piece of characterisation was that of the sheep-thief, by Orlando Barnett, and his slatternly wife was played by Madge Whiteman with a good deal of vigour. The work of Terence O'Brien, Mack Stanley, and Eric Ross, as the three Kings, was marked by dignity and elocutionary skill. The last-named also sang very finely excerpts from an old carol, the chorus of which was exquisitely rendered by the choir. Miss Sybil Thorndike invested her wonderful lines as Gabriel with real dignity and power, and moved most impressively throughout the play. Herod was played with dramatic force by Russell Thorndike, and Florence Saunders was excellent as his messenger. Smaller parts were adequately filled by Joan Churd and Winifred Oughton, as the doctors of law; Ray Litvin as the maid at the inn, and Mary Sumner and the Rev. Arthur Ellis as Mary and Joseph.

The Robert Percival Choir deserves the highest commendation for its excellent vocal contributions, although the disconcerting movements during the last part should be avoided in future performances.

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Albert, Australian
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Anderson, Miss Amy
Anderson, Miss Mary
Anderson, Mr. Bob
Angela, La Belle
Arlinson, Monsieur G
Arliss, Mr. George
Armitage, Miss Irene
Ashford, Mrs. J. W.
Astor, E. K.
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Barrie, Mr.
Batten, Miss
Beatty, Miss May
Beaumont, Miss Lucy
Bell, Enid
Benson, George
Benson, Mr. Herbert
Bernand Miss Stella
Bevan, Miss Faith
Beverley, Mr. Edwin
Biddall, Mr. William
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Blanche, Mr. Will
Boutelle, Mr. Frank
Bowman, Miss Isa
Boyne, Mr. Leonard
Bradbury, Miss D.
Braine and Reeve Misses
Brandon, Mr. John
Bray, Mr. George
Brett, Mr. Stanley
Brisk and Smart (Percy of)
Broadley, Miss H.
Brumley, J.
Brune, Mr. Tittel
Bucalossi, Mr.
Burch, Mr.
Burnege, Miss Mabel
Buscombe, Mr. L.
Butt, Mr. Alfred
Butt, Mrs. Robert
Butt, Mr. Robert
Caird, Peggy
Caldon, Lillie
Cameron, Miss Irene
Carlos, Miss Cleo
Carlyle, Miss Gracie
Carter, Robert
Cavanagn, Miss Nell
Chalk, Mr. Leonard
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Chapman, Mr. Edmond
Charrington, Mr. C.
Chester, Mr. Ernie
Chipperfields, Messrs
Chiverell, Mrs. Hilda M.
Chiverrell, Mr. M. S.
Clark, Bert
Clegg, Mrs. Fanny
Clements, Miss Venie
Clinton, Mr. Alf
Coburn, Mr. Chas.
Cochran, Mr. Charles
Coleridge, Miss Ethel
Conneaux, Miss May
Conrad, Mr. Con
Cope, Mrs.
Coquelli
Cornwall, Mr. J. H.
Correze, Alman
Cottrell, Mr. Albert
Cronin, M. F.
Culley, Mr. F.
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Dalton, Mr. Peter
Dare, Mr. Pelham
Dark, Mr. Fred
Davies Mrs. R. J.
Dean, Miss Bobbie
Deas, Mr. Henry
De-Courville, Mr. Albert
Defontenay, Miss Ruby
Delrosse, Miss A. S. L.
Delysia, Miss Alice
De Marest, Mr. Geo. H.
Dervant, Mr.
Deslys, Mdlle. Gaby
De Vere, Kitty
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Dingwall, Miss M.
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Francis, Miss Queenie
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Giffard, Mr. W.
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Glover, George
Glyn, Miss Mona
Godfrey, Miss Helen
Golding, Mr. Horace
Gordon, Miss Zoe
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Gower, Miss Violet
Grahame, Mr. R.
Grapho, Mr. Bert
Graves, Mr. George
Green, Miss Dorothy
Green, Mr. Frank
Gregory, Mr. James
Greig, Algernon F. M.
Grein, Mr. J. T.
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Hathaway, Miss M.
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Hatton, Mr. C. F.
Hawkins, Miss Iris
Hawkins, Miss Viva
Hay, Miss Joan
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Hazelwood, Miss Florence
Heath, Miss Rosie
Hector, Charles
Hedyes, Mrs.
Heeney, Mr. Tom
Henry, Martin
Henrys, Mr. Frank
Herbert, Mr. John
Herbert, Mr. Sydney
Hichens, Mr. R.
Hickey, Mr. L. D.
Hillier, Mr. Louis
Hoey, Miss Iris
Holden Mr. Harry
Holford, Miss D.
Hope, Mr. Roland
Hopenshaw, Miss Fanny
Hopkins, Mr. Ted
Howard, Miss Dorothy
Howard, Bronson
Humphreys, Miss E.
Huntley, Mr. G. P.
Hurlstone, Miss G.
Huxley. Miss Gladys
Illott, Mr.
Irving, Miss Daisy
Irving, Miss Ethel
Irving, Mr. H. B.
Ismay, Margaret
Ivo and Ameak, Messrs.
Jacksoff
James, Miss Julia
James, Mr. J. E.
Jephson, Mr. Edward
Jerome, Miss Daisy
Jerome, Mr. Charlie
Johnson, Miss
Johnson, Mrs. Mabel
José, Miss Florrie
Jule, Miss Rose
June, Roma
Jupp, Miss
Kangan, Miss L.
Kelcey, Mrs. Caroline
Kellogg, Miss Shirley
Kelson, Mr. Frank
Kenneth, Mr. Reg.
Kentucky, Miss L. L
Keppel, Miss Dorrie
Kerin, Miss Nora
Kerr, Miss Molly
King, George
King, Miss Dolly
King, Miss H.
Kirby, Mr. A.
Kirby, Mr. Gerald
Kirton, Miss A.
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Linmers, The
Lionel, Miss Nellie
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Lloyd, Miss Rosie
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Munily. Miss L.
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Nutt, Mr. J.
O'Brien. Mr. Gerald
Oliffe, Miss G.
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CHILDREN'S PLAY AT LIVERPOOL.

As is usual at this time of the year, continuous matinée performances are given for children at the Repertory Theatre, Liverpool, the selected play on the present occasion being Miss Henrietta Leslie's "The Palace of Cards," with music by Dr. James Lyons. The dainty little story of the Queen of Hearts was told in pleasing and ingenious fashion, and proved just the thing from which the younger members of an audience would derive keen pleasure. Every credit is due to the producers for the completeness of the whole, while the members of the repertory company are to be congratulated upon their ability to adapt themselves to such a simple theme. Among the leaders were Messrs. Lane Bayliff, Charles Troode, Charles R. Rose, Christian Morrow, Fred Taylor, Miss Margaret Yarde (a capital Queen), Miss Olive Riley (Patience), and Miss Doris Lloyd (admirable as the chorus).

ON THE ROAD.

PLAYS.

Abbott, Ernest.—Jan. 1, T.R., Norwich; 8, T.R., Norwich.
Affair of Room 14.—Jan. 1, Metropolitan, London.
Aladdin (Clare).—Jan. 1, Alexandria.
Aladdin (Clements).—Jan. 1, Lyceum, Newport.
Aladdin (Dottridge).—Jan. 1, Royal Hippo., Wigan.
Amazing Marriage.—Jan. 1, Alexandra, Hull.
Annie Laurie.—Jan. 1, Public Theatre, Stirling; 8, King's, Kilmarnock.
Arcadians.—Jan. 1, H.M., Dundee.
Babes in the Wood.—Jan. 1, Perth Theatre, Perth.
Babes in the Wood (Harry McKelvin's).—Jan. 1, Opera House, Perth.
Babes in the Wood (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 1, Empire Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Babes in the Wood (Scott).—Jan. 1, Empire, Sunderland.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Smith).—Jan. 1, Empire, Barnsley; 8, King's, Manchester.
Back Home in Tennessee.—Jan. 1, T.R., South Shields; 8, O.H., Dudley.
Because Love Made You Mine.—Jan. 1, T.R., Oldham.
Beauty and the Beast.—Jan. 1, O.H., Coventry.
Bella Donna.—Jan. 1, T.R., Norwich.
Betty (George Edwardes).—Jan. 1, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.
Bing Boys Are Here.—Jan. 1, Oxford.
Black Sheep of the Family.—Jan. 1, T.R., Chorley; 8, Hippodrome, Bolton.
Bo-Peep (Tom Vernon).—Jan. 1, Regent, Salford.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.—Jan. 1, T.R., Bradford; 8, Lyceum, Sheffield.
Cinderella.—Jan. 1, Olympia, Shoreditch.
Cinderella (Clements).—Jan. 1, T.R., Worcester.
Cinderella (Crumpe).—Jan. 1, Palace, Tottenham.
Cinderella (James Kiddie).—Jan. 1, Grand, Derby; 8, Hippo., Hulme.
Cottage Girl.—Jan. 1, Metropole, Abertillery.
Cupid Goes Astray.—Jan. 1, Hippo, Shildon.
Daughter of Devon.—Jan. 1, New, Port Talbot; 8, Grand, Pentre.
Dick Whittington.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Willesden.
Dick Whittington (Harry Burns).—Jan. 1, Palace, East Ham.
Dick Whittington (Jason and Montgomery).—Jan. 1, Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.
Diplomacy.—Jan. 1, T.R., North Shields; 8, Bishop Auckland.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Jan. 1, P.O.W., Birmingham; 8, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Empire English Opera Co.—Jan. 1, Pavilion, Pontnewynydd; 8, Hippo., Aberdare.
Fatal Wedding.—Jan. 1, Blake's Theatre, Hitchin; 8, T.R., Woolwich.
Forbes Knowles Rep. Co.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Burslem; 8, Hippo., Burslem.
Garrod, W. V.—Jan. 1, T.R., Merthyr; 8, Workman's Hall, Blaenavon.
Gates of Mercy.—Jan. 1, Prince's, Blackburn; 8, Palace, Derby.
Harrison Frewin Opera Co.—Jan. 1, Shakespeare, Liverpool; 8, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Harvey (Martin).—Jan. 1, O.H., Northampton.
Heart of a Shop Girl.—Jan. 1, Glasgow.
Heaven at the Helm.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Wednesbury.
Her Forbidden Sacrifice.—Jan. 1, Empire, Largs; 8, Metropole, Glasgow.
Her Little Bit of Heaven.—Jan. 1, T.R., Tyldesley; 8, Olympia, West Bromwich.
His Mother's Rosary.—Jan. 1, Arcadia, Spennymoor; 8, Empire, Alexandria.
His Mother's Son, V.C.—Jan. 1, Arcadia, Spennymoor.
If Love Were All.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Bilston.
Jack and Jill (Jack Cromo).—Jan. 1, Empire, Penge; 8, T.R., Aston.
Jack and the Beanstalk (De Lacy).—Jan. 1, Grand, Halifax.
Jenny Omroyd of Oldham (Panting).—Jan. 1, Palace, Melton Mowbray; 8, T.R., Whitehaven.
Just a Little Pair of Shoes.—Jan. 1, Palace, Rochdale; 8, Longton.
Keep the Home Fires Burning.—Jan. 1, Empire, Cradley Heath.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Jan. 1, Olympia, West Bromwich; 8, Palace, Redditch.
Light that Leads Me Home.—Jan. 1, Rotunda, Liverpool.
Little Bit of Fluff.—Jan. 1, P.O.W., Grimsby.
Little Grey Home in the West.—Jan. 1, T.R., Stratford, E.; 8, Palace, Gloucester.
Little Minister.—Jan. 1, T.R., York; 8, O.H., Buxton.
Little Red Riding Hood.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Altrincham; 8, Grand, Lancaster.
Little Red Riding Hood.—Jan. 1, Theatre, Torquay.
Little Red Riding Hood (Bannister Howard).—Jan. 1, Empire, Kingston.
Little Red Riding Hood (Caines).—Jan. 1, Royal Hippo., Preston.
Love Kiss.—Jan. 1, Junction, Manchester; 8, Alexandra, Hull.
Mackey's (Chalmers) Repertory Co.—Jan. 1, Cinema Palace, Wexford.
Man Who Stayed at Home (Blue).—Jan. 1, H.M.T., Carlisle; 8, Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
Marriage Market.—Jan. 1, King's, Glasgow; 8, Metropole, Bootle.
Midnight Wedding.—Jan. 1, Empire, Longton; 8, Metropole, Manchester.
Mill Girl's Wedding.—Jan. 1, Olympia, West Bromwich; 8, Palace, Redditch.
Millionaire and the Woman.—Jan. 8, New Globe, Consett.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Jan. 1, Grand, Southampton.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—Jan. 8, Empire, Barnsley.
Mormon and the Maid.—Jan. 8, T.R., Tyldesley.
Mother Goose.—Jan. 1, Empire, Kilburn.
O'Brien and Ireland's Co.—Jan. 1, Carrick-on-Suir.
O'Mara Opera Company.—Jan. 1, H.M. Opera House, Blackpool.
Pitman's Daughters.—Jan. 1, T.R., Merthyr; 8, Workman's Hall, Blaenavon.
Potash and Perlmutter.—Jan. 1, Grand, Blackpool; 8, Empire, Middlesbrough.
Potash and Perlmutter in Society.—Jan. 1, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.
Robinson Crusoe (Collins).—Jan. 1, Hippo., Norwich.
Robinson Crusoe (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 1, Osborne, Manchester.
Robinson Crusoe (Laidman).—Jan. 1, South Parade Pier, Southsea.
Romance.—Jan. 1, T.R., Leamington; 8, Gaiety, Manchester.
Rotters (Blue) Company.—Jan. 1, Worthing; 8, Doncaster.
Rotters (Red) Company.—Jan. 1, T.R., Colchester; 8, T.R., Bolton.
Sally in Society.—Jan. 1, Palace, Gloucester.
Saville's Repertory Co.—Jan. 1, Opera House, Londonderry; 8, Opera House, Londonderry.
Sinbad the Sailor (Clements and Keir).—Jan. 8, T.R., Bath.
Sinbad the Sailor (Collins).—Jan. 1, Palace, Watford.
Sinbad the Sailor (Le Cren).—Jan. 1, Metropole, Manchester.
Sinbad the Sailor (McKelvie).—Jan. 1, O.H., Harrogate; 8, Palace, Carlisle.
Sinbad the Sailor (Watson).—Jan. 1, King's, Manchester.
Soldier Priest.—Jan. 1, Globe, Deal; 8, Hippo., Dover.
Somewhere a Heart is Breaking.—Jan. 8, T.R., Tyldesley.
Story of the Rosary.—Jan. 1, Grand, Doncaster; 8, Hippo., Derby.
Sunday.—Jan. 1, Empire, Oswestry.
Tiger's Cub.—Jan. 1, Empire, Swindon; 8, Garrison, Tidworth.
To-Night's the Night.—Jan. 1, Empire, Sunderland.
Toto.—Jan. 8, Royalty, Barrow.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Jan. 1, Empire, Camberwell.
Vicar's Sin.—Jan. 1, T.R., Crook; 8, Pavilion, Ashington.
Vicar's Wife.—Jan. 1, Gaiety, Houghton; 8, Palace, Newcastle.
When Knights Were Bold.—Jan. 8, County T., Reading.
Within the Law.—Jan. 1, T.R., Rochdale; 8, King's, Greenock.
Ye Gods!—Jan. 1, Grand, Nelson; 8, Royal Court, Wigan.

REVUES.

All French.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Derby; 8, Empire, Wolverhampton.
All the Nice Girls.—Jan. 1, Metropole, Bootle.
Au Revoir Paris.—Jan. 1, T.R., Chatham; 8, T.R., Smethwick.
Bric-à-Brac.—Jan. 1, T.R., Nottingham.
Coloured Society.—Jan. 8, T.R., Wolverhampton.
Come In, Miss.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Bolton.
Eyes Front.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Ilford.
Fall In.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Balham.
Find the Lady.—Jan. 1, Empire, Edmonton.
Frolics.—Jan. 1, Grand, Clapham.
Fun and Beauty.—Jan. 1, Empire, Middlesbrough.
Good Evening.—Jan. 1, Belfast; 8, Nottingham.
Heave-O!—Jan. 1, Palace, Grimsby; 8, Hippo., Aldershot.
High Explosives.—Jan. 1, Empire, Leeds; 8, Empire, Hull.
High Jinks.—Jan. 1, King's, Glasgow; 8, King's, Glasgow.
Honri's Quick March.—Jan. 1, Pavilion, Liverpool.
Hot and Cold.—Jan. 1, Palace, Hull; 8, South Shields.
Introduce Me.—Jan. 1, Middlesex, London; 8, Empire, Newport.
It's a Nice Day.—Jan. 1, Falkirk; 8, Dundee.
It's Funny.—Jan. 1, Theatre, Walthamstow.
Kodak Girl.—Jan. 1, Empire, Islington; 8, Hippo., Bristol.
Pillar to Post.—Jan. 1, Empire, Tonypandy.
Rosebuds.—Jan. 1, T.R., Darlington; 8, Theatre, Barrow.
Samples.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Leeds.
Scotch and Cockney.—Jan. 1, Empire, South Shields.
S'hush.—Jan. 1, T.R., Jarrow; 8, T.R., South Shields.
Some Girls.—Jan. 1, Tivoli, Manchester; 8, Hippo., Hyde.
Some Treasure.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Greenock; 8, Palace, Nelson.
Special Mixtures.—Jan. 1, Empire, Stratford, E.; 8, Empire, Finsbury Park.
Wait a Minute.—Jan. 1, Pavilion, Leicester.
Water Birds.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Southend.
When Irish Eyes Are Smiling.—Jan. 1, Empire, Rotherham.
Would You Believe It?—Jan. 1, Grand, Stockton.

CONCERT PARTIES.

Charivari.—Jan. 1, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.
Courtiers.—Jan. 1, Granville, Walham Green.
Gay Gondoliers, The.—Jan. 1, Picture House, Stamford.
Gipsies.—Jan. 1, Ripon.
Hustlers, The.—Jan. 1, Royal, Limerick.
Mountebanks.—Jan. 1, Rusholme Pav., Manchester.
Nobodies.—Jan. 1, Hippo., Wigan.
Pierrot, Pierrette, and Piano.—Jan. 1, Winter Hall, Leamington Spa.
Pronouns (Pantomime), The.—Jan. 1, Pavilion, Penzance; 8, Pavilion, Penzance.
Radiums, The.—Jan. 1, Empire, Warminster.
Royal Scarlet Entertainers.—Jan. 1, Empire, Swadlincote.
Tourists, The.—Jan. 1, Spa, Bridlington; 8, Empire, Warminster.

"NOTHING NEW."

Revue, Produced at the Repertory Theatre, Liverpool, on Saturday, Dec. 23.

Encouraged by the success of former years, the Repertory Theatre management have produced another revue to fill the evening bill, and on the 23rd ult. they submitted "Nothing New," from the pen of Mr. John Hastings Turner, author of the successful "Iris Intervenes," with some particularly good music by Mr. Lawrence Hanray, a former member of the repertory company. "Nothing New" contains a large amount of food for laughter, and on its initial performance was greeted with cordial approval. There are several necessary emendations, but when these are made the work will continue to afford much genuine pleasure. The story opens with the Flood, the next scene depicting the Stone Age, in which the characters are attired according to the imagined fashion of that pre-historic period. Afterwards the audience are carried to the time of the French Revolution, and in the second part find themselves confronted with the present year, that of 1999 being afterwards dealt with.

As may be imagined, the whole of the story lends itself to long stretches of comedy, in which the members of the company revel, much to everybody's delight. Mr. Lane Bailiff, as the cockney lover, and Miss Doris Lloyd, in the rôle of the accompanying sweetheart, evoked great applause with their coster songs and dance, afterwards giving an excellent melo-dramatic skit, entitled "His Sin; or, A Girl in a Million." Mr. Wilfred Shine made merry in several characters, being particularly good as the shopkeeper whose conscience will not allow him to disobey the rule controlling the sale of sugar, &c., and as the patriotic admiral; Miss Yarde was an excellent representative of the Censor, and proved a bright village gossip; Miss Muriel Pratt pleased generally with her several impersonations and talented vocalism; and other valuable helpers were Mr. Charles Troode, Miss Eileen Thorndike, Mr. Ashton Pearse, Mr. Christian Morrow, Mr. Chas. R. Rose, and Miss Margaret Dean.

"Betty," presented by the company from Daly's Theatre, was excellently patronised at Buxton Opera House for the Christmas week. The little play was found to be a marvellous antidote to war and dreary weather.

OPERA AT LIVERPOOL.

A twelve weeks' visit was opened on Boxing Day, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, by the Harrison-Frewin Opera Company; and, judging by the enthusiasm shown by the packed audiences of the afternoon and evening, there is every promise that Mr. Kelly's enterprise will prove as successful as in former years. The company, which is under the direction of Mr. H. B. Phillips and Mr. L. M. Ewart, comprises such gifted artistes as Mesdames Nora D'Argel, Jeanne Brola, Raymonde Amy, Ella Rees, Marie Lewis, Christine Oliver, Esther Yunson, Messrs. John Harrison, Lewys James, Walter Hyde, Furness Williams, John Clarke, Alex. Jones, and Tom Griffiths. It is also announced that Miss Phyllis Archibald and Mr. Charles Moorhouse have been definitely engaged. The season opened with "Faust," and in the evening "Maritana" was given. Other works of the week included "Il Trovatore," "Rigoletto," "Carmen," "Rusticana," "Lily of Killarney," and "Bohemian Girl." During the stay of the company Puccini's "Butterfly" and "La Bohème," Rossini's "Barber of Seville," "Mignette," and "Ib and Christina" are promised.

Mr. Benoni Brewer, gold medallist of the Royal Academy of Music and a well-known violinist, has met with a fatal accident in the grounds of Witley Court, near Worcester. He was motoring to Lady Dudley's children's party when the car skidded, ran into a tree, and fell down a bank. The other occupants of the car were not seriously injured.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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ADELPHI (Strand), "High-Jinks," 8. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday at 2.

ALDWYCH (Aldwych, W.C.).—Grand opera, 8. Matinées, Thursday, Saturday, 2.15.

AMBASSADORS (West-street, Cambridge-circus).—"Pell-Mell," 8.30. David Devant's Magical Matinées, 2.30.

COMEDY (Panton-street).—"See-Saw," 8.15. Matinées, Monday, Friday, Saturday, 2.15.

COURT (Sloane-square). — "Hindle Wakes, 2.15. Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, 7.45.

CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus). — "A Little Bit of Fluff," 8.30. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

DALY'S (Leicester-square). — "Young England," 8. Friday, Saturday, 2.

DRURY-LANE (Catherine-street, W.C.).—"Puss In Boots," twice daily, 1.30 and 7.30.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"Daddy Long-Legs," 2.30 and 8.15.

GAIETY (Strand).—"Theodore and Co.," 8. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road).—"The Girl from Ciro's," 8.30. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Peg o' My Heart," 8.15. "Where the Rainbow Ends," 2.15.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket). — "The Widow's Might," 8.30. "Postal Orders," 8. Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.15.

KINGSWAY (Great Queen-street, W.C.).—"A Kiss for Cinderella," 2.30. Thursday and Saturday, 6.30.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE (Kingsway).—"Cinderella," 2.0 and 7.45.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Mother Goose," 1.30 and 7.0.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Romance," 8.15. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Peter Pan," daily at 2.0. Thursdays and Saturdays at 7.30.

PALLADIUM (Argyle-street). — "The House that Jack Built," 2.15 daily.

PLAYHOUSE (Northumberland-avenue).—"The Misleading Lady," 8.30. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES'S (Coventry-street, W.).—"The Happy Family," daily, 2.30. "Hobson's Choice," nightly, 8.30.

PRINCE'S (top of Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Bluebell in Fairyland," 2.15 and 8.0.

QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Potash and Perlmutter in Society," 8.15. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, 2.30.

ROYALTY (Dean-street, Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Home on Leave," daily 2.45. Evenings, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 8.30.

SAVOY (Strand).—"The Professor's Love Story," 8.15. "Alice in Wonderland," 2.30.

ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, Cambridge-circus).—"Hoop La," 8.30. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

STRAND (Aldwych, W.C.).— — "The Babes in the Wood," 2.15. "The Belle of New York," 8.

ST. JAMES'S (King-street, St. James's).—"Charley's Aunt," 2.30 and 8.0.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand).—"Some," 8.15. Matinées, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.15.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"London Pride," 8.15. Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.

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THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1917.

CONCESSION AND CO-OPERATION.

THE third New Year's Day has passed with the nation still feeling the blight of war, yet it is cheerily chronicled that on the last working day of the Old Year several of the West-End houses played to capacity, and we are told that the season's prospects in London are particularly rosy. If, therefore, the wish to live and see good days is not so near realisation as one would desire, professionals and proprietors can join in a chorus of thankfulness and hope.

The outlook in the provinces gives cause for less confidence. The news that there was a probability of a withdrawal of the 25 per cent. reduction in fare created considerable uneasiness. This, however, has been happily removed by the official intimation that the concession is to "stand"—a wise and excellent decision. There is every reason to believe, too, that the railway companies have made up their minds to assist artistes and touring managers as much as possible. We ground this belief on the assurance of the authorities at Euston, who want to "impress upon the profession the necessity of advising the railway company on the Monday what journey they propose to make the following Sunday." With the very much restricted train service and arrangements that came into operation on January 1, "it is more difficult to deal with companies whose journeys are only notified at the last minute." The letter is couched in a spirit of helpfulness, and confirms the dictum of a manager running many tours who tells us that the railways have throughout the war given every facility possible and shown every courtesy.

But with the increased restrictions on travelling, and the subordination of public convenience to war-time exigencies, managers of touring companies will be faced with the difficulties of transport through the scarcity of trucks. One big revue proprietor has solved the problem by the purchase of motor lorries, no longer fit for military service, from the Government. Such a method of conveyance will commend itself to the proprietors of the larger touring companies, though its adoption must be circumscribed by the restrictions on the use of petrol and the price.

As a plan for securing for proprietors of tours a happy issue out of their afflictions, the suggestion in a recent issue of "The Era" of "working" the country in sections has commanded much attention. "Sectionising," as it may be called, is really short-circuiting tours and abolishing long jumps from one end of the Kingdom to the other by a system of mutual exchange and accommodation between managers of theatres, proprietors of travelling companies, and artistes. The chief advantage of such a system would be the saving of expense.

Such sections as Lancashire, or Yorkshire, or the Midlands strike the lay mind as easy to work; but the plan is beset by very serious difficulties. Who is to take it in hand, and direct it? If it is ever to come within the region of practical accomplishment it must be carried out by a cabinet of men of wide experience in the business—men who command the confidence of resident managers and the rank and file of the profession. Even with such a cabinet elected, a proposition that presupposes solid union among business competitors, how would the interests of the various theatrical managements be adjusted, and would it be possible to arrange to everybody's satisfaction the status of theatres and companies, the percentages, etc.? There is much to be said for stock and repertoire companies, because the expense of running them is not excessive, and their establishment often keeps a theatre on the active list.

With the demand for greater self-denial in the work of organising the nation, some carpers have arisen who would close all places of amusement, because they argue that the player or variety artiste is but a luxury of civilisation, that the public—now that the national consciousness is aroused—have much more important duties than the support of the playhouse or the music hall. Such people have no conception of the recuperative power of relaxation before the footlights, no idea of the refreshing influence of the stage upon the mind, jaded and depressed. From a world of plodding commerce they look upon the actor or artiste's career as eccentric and exceptional. For their benefit one might quote the sage who said: "'Tis not in sport, nor in laughter, nor in diversion that lieth all evil, nor all good in mourning, nor in sad garments."

A PANTOMIME ILIAD.

The Pantomimes are going strong.
At Drury Lane, though four hours' long,
"Puss in New Boots," with jest and song,
Keeps everyone from snoozing;
At Brixton, "Beauty and the Beast"
Have both with *éclat* been "released,"
And at the Dalston, nor'-nor'-east,
"Ma Hubbard" proves amusing.

The old Lyceum's "Mother Goose"
Is full of meat and rich in juice,
While at the London Opera Hoose
Sweet "Cinders" frolics gaily;
"The Babes" are stranded at the Strand,
The New, at two, is "Peter Panned,"
"Jack's House" at the Palladium's grand,
And proves a "full house" daily.

I haven't room in these short rhymes
To catalogue more pantomimes—
'Twould fill a volume of "The Times"
If I were to report all;
But if the shows that want an "ad."
Will send five shillings, I'll be glad
In next week's Panto. Iliad
To render them immortal.

TOUCHSTONE.

A PEOPLE'S PLAYHOUSE.

By ROSINA FILIPPI.

WHAT ITALY HAS DONE AND ENGLAND COULD DO.

THE art of the theatre is the most democratic of arts. From the stage the multitude can be influenced to a far greater degree than through the medium of any other art. This fact alone seems ample justification for the establishing of a Temple for the People's Art in every provincial town and in every thickly populated "working-class" district of London.

The easiest and most satisfying method of awakening thought and stirring emotions in those whose lives so often lack colour, romance, and the impulse to thought, is through the medium of a play which amuses, educates, and is a moral and spiritual agency. My main plea for the People's Theatre scheme, then, is based on the vast influence it will exercise as mental nourishment, mental stimulus, and what I may term mental hygiene.

What exactly do I mean by a People's Theatre? What is the People's Theatre in being? For an answer, I need only turn to the example of the Teatro di Popolo in Milan, which was opened by Duse six years ago and has paid its way ever since. This theatre is situated in the Via Reina, the thieves' quarter of the city; and while I would not say that its patrons are thieves, they are certainly blacksmiths and street labourers and the working classes generally—a fact which is simply explained by the statement that the uniform price for all seats is fourpence.

When the Swells Went Home.

Once only were the prices raised, and that was when a company of university men from Padua came over to give a classical Greek play—in Italian, of course. The management thought their patrons would not like such classic fare, so they raised the prices to 1s. 8d., 10d., and 5d. But the ordinary patrons swarmed up in larger crowds than ever, and when the people from the swell parts of Milan arrived there was not a seat left in the house.

The effect of this Italian People's Theatre has been not only to amuse, but to reduce crime, to improve the intelligence of the people, and to serve as a bridge between primary education and the responsible duties of the voter. It was Mr. H. G. Wells who some years ago told an audience at the Royal Institute that people of inferior grades go to the theatre largely in order to learn how the other grades behave—in other words, they get from the theatre instruction in the different aspects of sociology. They learn about the world they live in—the vast and various world outside the special class to which they belong—and so fit themselves to take their share in the work of a nation.

A Penn'orth of All Sorts.

I do not suggest, however, that, because the mission of the People's Theatre would be to a wide extent educative, it should become an "academy." Also, I do not believe that it should confine itself to classics. Again, it should not be a pulpit for "stars" any more than it should be an ante-room for dramatic pupils—although a pupils' theatre is also very badly needed in England. But there is no reason why it should not prove an invaluable asset to the dramatic profession as a testing-ground for young players.

As to the productions for the People's Theatre, I suggest Shakespeare, Shaw, Sheridan, Barrie, Pinero, Molière, Maeterlinck, etc.

It is sometimes asserted that "the people"—those who at present are not catered for in their own districts—have no patience with Shakespeare, that classic plays leave them cold. I have proved this belief a myth. Mr. Ben Greet in his present season at the "Old Vic" has also proved it a myth. When, as a pioneer of the People's Theatre movement, I gave a season at the "Old Vic," we had most gratifying audiences considering that it was the "off" season. During every performance of "Romeo and Juliet," "The Merchant of Venice," and other Shakespeare plays there were enormous silences. I am reminded of a certain costermonger who, resplendent in a suit of sparkling buttons, was present at every single performance. Each evening he left, however, at about twenty to eleven. So that he should see the end of at least one play, I arranged one night to give the variety turns after the play.

Facts and Figures.

Although my efforts and the efforts of those who have followed my lead have proved that there is life in the People's Theatre, my own season was not a financial success. This was partly due to the fact that it was summertime. Under the most favourable circumstances I have never imagined that a People's Theatre would do more than pay its way. But this should content those who pretend to pine for a National Theatre if they desire it to be "national" in the truest sense of the word.

I estimate that a People's Theatre could be started with a capital of £40,000. There should be a stock company with repertory experience. The rental should be about £1,000. The seating capacity of, say, 3,000—seats to be had at 3d., 4d., and 6d. It should then be possible to make a gross turnover of something like £12,000 a year. The investment may not sound attractive from the commercial point of view, but surely Britain can do what Italy has done and what Germany, with the *Neue Freie Volksbühne*, has done successfully during the past twenty-four years.

"STARS" I HAVE IMITATED.

By ROBERT HALE.

CONCERNING THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY.

NO one who has read the reminiscences of Mr. Leslie Ward, more popularly known as "Spy," can fail to be impressed by the imminent danger of disfigurement in which the caricaturist himself daily, almost hourly, lives. Caricaturing is a perilous pastime. It has a way of making people thirsty for your blood. You can hear them fe-fi-fo-fumming half way down the street. And the stage caricaturist, who works not in pencil but in flesh and blood, stands perhaps in even greater jeopardy than his fellow artist! I have made rather a speciality of imitations, so I speak with Press Bureau authority. Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery, but not all imitatees readily grasp this fact, and although I haven't been shot yet——well, you never can tell. I am hoping that if ever Miss Doris Keane comes to see my imitation of her in "Puss in New Boots," she will leave her stiletto behind. But don't be surprised if one of these fine days you see the posters announcing "Assassination of Robert Hale." I shan't be surprised myself; my only comfort is that it will be a truly magnificent advertisement.

The curious thing is that, though imitatees are sometimes very much annoyed at your interpretations of them, they never consider that you are like all the like them. You are in the least other famous actors and actresses you take off——wonderfully like——but——funny how you miss it in their own special case! Once again I speak with authority; not only because of my experiences with people I have imitated, but because of my experiences with people who have imitated me. They have never been in the least like me. Their imitations of me have been as execrable as their imitations of all the others have been excellent. They seem somehow to miss the essential point that I have a handsomer face, a more beautiful voice, and a finer wit than any other man in London. How blind some people are!

Blind, indeed! I remember poor Teddy Payne speaking to me the day after the big "Merry Widow" dinner. He said that the first half of the night was splendid—"thplendid." "And then," he complained, "the Follieth came along and thpoiled the whole thow. They did thome imitationth, and becauthe I wath there they ended up with me. Not a bit like me, dear boy, not a bit! Why, they made me lithp! I don't lithp! I don't thay 'eth'—I thay '*eth*'!" Even dear old Teddy Payne didn't realise he lisped!

I remember having a most exhilarating bout one night with Ethel Levey when I was imitating her. Now, it so happened that she was in the stalls—and when I saw her I laid on the colours as thick as possible. Then Ethel, in her shy way, began speaking across to me, trying to put me out, declaring that I was the rottenest actor in the radius, and so on. She was in great form that night, and the audience soon got on to it. So I took them into my confidence. "That's not Ethel Levey," I announced; "*I'm* Ethel Levey. That's only her sister!" It was the hit of the night.

The great thing about imitating is, of course, to get hold of the salient outstanding idiosyncracy of an actor or actress, and to perfect that to the very finest point. When, for example, I decided to take off Gaby Deslys—and I took her off to her face, on the stage, night after night—I discovered that the thing to seize on was her perpetually open mouth, and I worked that for all it was worth. But your imitations ought always to have something new and true in them—something that has not been done before by everyone. Everyone, for example, thinks he can be George Graves without the slightest effort of brain or observation, merely by holding his hand up to his mouth and muttering, "God bless my soul!" And so we find that most of the imitations given to-day are not imitations of the original, but imitations of imitations of the original. Someone makes the great discovery, and then in troop the great host of hangers-on—ten a penny a regular cycle parade.

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.*
MR. ROBERT HALE.

It has certainly become a cycle parade in the case of George Graves imitations—and the amusing thing is that Graves now never *does* put his hand up to his mouth and say "God bless my soul!" It is an old trick which he has renounced—as a war economy perhaps. But his imitators go on blissfully unconscious of his altered methods.

Graves, by the way, never criticised my own imitation of him—but perhaps that was because I didn't pinch any of his gags. This, I am afraid, has become a far too common practice with imitators; they not only imitate the actor's voice and gestures, they take his whole turn bodily, repeat his own jokes, and so present the audience with a performance which, while it may not be good as a replica of the original, is certainly highly amusing on its own merits. This is a point on which any comedian has a right to feel very strongly; and, for my own part, if ever one of my imitations descends to plagiarism of this kind I shall readily welcome that little assassination I spoke of, for it will mean that creatively I am squeezed dry—wrung out—a hollow echo of spontaneity.

HOW SINGERS SPOIL SONGS.

By JULIA JAMES.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING THE WORDS HEARD.

NOT long ago I was asked by an interviewer to disclose what I considered to be the secret of success in singing on the stage. Of course, there is no "open sesame" to fame. An artiste may succeed because of a good voice, or a telling personality, or an adorable (or even mobile!) face. The golden rule is that there is no golden rule. But certainly one *sine quâ non* for the singer on the stage is, in my opinion, that the words of a song should be so articulated that the audience can hear and understand them all. The cause of the failure of dozens of otherwise promising performers may be summed up in the eight syllables—Unintelligibility.

No intelligent critic of the musical comedy or variety stage can have failed to note the distinctness with which nearly all the "stars" enunciate their words. Nor can he have failed to mark, on the other hand, the depressingly inarticulate jumble of sounds which so often emanates from the lips of the minor members of the cast or of the early turns. The more serious a song is in character, the less important the singer appears to consider it to be that the audience should hear the words. I have listened to scores of serious ballads without being able to understand more than their general tenor. And even the singer of a comic patter song, which depends so largely for its success on the humorous twists and turns of the libretto, frequently gallops through at such double-Derby-winner speed that you can only hear the key-line.

I remember once listening to a comedian singing a breathless song, not one word of which could I catch apart from the final "And that was the end of Brown!" This line was delivered by the performer at the finish of each break-neck verse with the most intense comic significance; but as no one in the audience had the slightest idea what had led to Mr. Brown's unfortunate conclusion on each occasion, the atmosphere in the auditorium became chillier and chillier with every verse.

This was an exceptional case; but only too commonly less than half the words are sung audibly, so that in the end the whole gives the impression of having been concocted by the editor of a missing word competition. Let me give a concrete example of the sort of thing I mean, filling in the metre where the missing words occur:—

Here's to the tiddely-tumty-ti boys,
Here's to the tumty-tiddelies, too,
Tiddely-tiddely chaps,
Tumty-tumty khaki caps,
Tiddely-tumty tiddely-tum and true—
God bless the tiddely-tumty-di-do,
He's the tiddely-tum for me and you,
Tiddely-tumty wiser
Tumty-tumty-tumty Kaiser,
So let's tiddely-tum the red, white and blue.

Now surely, if a patriotic song is worth singing at all, it is worth singing with a little more respect than this! True, the orchestra is sometimes to blame, but it is the singer's duty, no less than his right, to insist that the orchestra shall not play too loudly.

May I conclude with a little story to point the moral? I have it on excellent authority that a short while ago a young musical comedy actress was given a song to sing entitled "The Love that is Born in Spring." Soon after the first performance was over a kind friend came round to the girl's dressing-room and congratulated her. "By the way," he mentioned, as he rose to go, "I must say that I thought the words of your song rather queer. Did the Johnny who wrote them mean lemon-coloured ones, or what?" "Lemon-coloured what?" asked the bewildered singer. "Why, gloves," said the congratulator; "weren't you singing about 'the glove that is worn in spring'?"

OUR BROADSHEET.

By HERBERT FARJEON.

A PLEA FOR THE STREET MUSICIAN.

A WEEKLY paper has, I see, been hailing with delight what it describes as "the obliteration of the itinerant musician." With pæans of thanksgiving it rejoices over the heavy gaps made by the war in the ranks of organ-grinders, hurdy-gurdy-men, harmonium-players, street-violinists, and the rag, tag and bobtail of the musical profession generally, who have either marched off to the Front or been compelled to renounce their calling because it is no longer profitable. The writer offers up a pious prayer that our ears may never again be assailed by their "cacophonies." He expresses the hope that peace may find them "clean, sober, hard-working, productive citizens of the State."

Well, well! at the imminent risk of being convicted as a backslider, I confess that I have always loved the street musician—and love him still. I am anti-Prussian enough to hope that his cleanliness and his sobriety may be for three years only or the duration of the war. And I offer up a fervent counter-prayer that, when the war is over, he may return to the life that is in his bones, if only because he is the most picturesque, the most mediæval legacy in flesh and blood left to the twentieth century.

Waits—New Style.

It is many months now since Giuseppe last invaded our own particular street to remind us of the interminable distance to Tipperary or the necessity of both getting out and getting under, but it was not, I think, till a few nights before Christmas that I realised the extent to which the ranks of the itinerant musician have been depleted. Then, as it chanced, a brass band of the dear old uncertain species, with headstrong cornet and pot-shot tuba, struck up "The Mistletoe Bough" outside my window, and in an instant converted me to Christianity. The worse they played, the more, I believe, my heart went out to these waits, with their numb fingers and frosty breath and precarious wardrobe of remnants. When, at last, I opened the door to their rat-tat, my soul was overflowing with Samaritanism towards all good-for-nothings. And there before me stood a chubby, round-faced, spick-and-span, be-uniformed child of eight, with a red band round his hat, announcing in bold letters the words "Salvation Army."

An excellent idea, granted; but when he remarked, "Collecting for the North-East Hampstead Depot" (or something to that effect), how my religion petered out! What is a penny bestowed upon a middleman (or middle-boy), who thanks you distantly and politely, and means it, every word, to a penny bestowed direct upon a vagabond who husks, "God bless you, mister!" with overpowering fervour and sets you down for a softy? For decency's sake, I gave the boy a penny; but a chill came over me when I told myself that the youth to whom I had given it would pass it on to a secretary, who would buy a penny stamp with it to put on a letter to thank someone for a subscription which was several hundred times more generous than my own. . . .

The Piping Days.

I dare swear, many waits have laid down their lives for England in this war—God rest them, merry gentlemen! And welcome home to those who come through unscathed—welcome home to England and to the life you left behind you. We have no ear for "cacophonies," you and I.

And what of the French horn soloist who, in the piping days of peace, would draw the tears into our eyes with his poignant rendering of "Killarney" outside the Golden Lion on Saturday and Wednesday afternoons? We have missed him for a year now, but shall his return not be celebrated with laurel-wreaths and beer? And can there be any so insensitive that he has no warm corner for the most marvellous manipulator of the one-man orchestra—a drum at his back, cymbals on his head, and a triangle in his hand? Is he not as fragrant as a May morning and as merry as a morrice, for all his solemn air?

Kerbstone Concerts.

I remember a Scottish piper, who, when I was a child, used to skirl down the street on Thursdays with as much swagger as if he had been Prince Charlie's cousin. Great days, those Thursdays! How I loved to see him walking up the road as if he had walked all the way from Edinburgh to my house, and could walk all the way back to Edinburgh again, without turning a hair. Nor can I ever forget a honey-bowed violinist, a good-looking, nicely-spoken fellow, who used to play to us on summer evenings with such simple skill that passers stopped to listen by the lamp-posts, and pennies, chinking down at every pause, made music on the pavements.

Your Philharmonics, your Promenades, your Symphonies and the like—no, I do not despise them. But if it came to a pass and the choice was for my making, I confess that I would sacrifice them all for the sweet *al fresco* concert of the kerbstones.

Mr. Sidney Black, who plays Harlequin in the pantomime at Theatre Royal, Birmingham, had the misfortune to sprain his ankle on Thursday last. No understudy being available, Mr. Geo. M. Slater (the author and producer) undertook this rôle at the subsequent performances, and received the thanks of the management and numerous congratulations.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Captain John Lauder Killed in Action.

The sympathy of play-goers and professionals all over the world will be extended to Mr. Harry Lauder, whose only son, Captain John C. Lauder, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, has fallen in action. At the outbreak of war young Lauder was with his father, who was on a professional tour in Australia, and, hurrying home, joined the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He was in training for some time at Bedford, and it was here that he was visited in camp by his father on his return to England, the famous comedian delighting the men of the battalion by his inimitable rendering of the Scotch songs they loved.

Twice Wounded.

In 1915 Lieut. Lauder went to the front, and, after seeing a deal of fighting, was wounded at Festubert. Soon back in the trenches, he contracted pleurisy, and was invalided home in September, 1915. Shortly afterwards, promoted to the rank of captain, he returned to France, and last year he was again wounded and in this country for some time. It was only a month or two since, previous to his return to the trenches for the third time, that Captain John's engagement to Miss Mildred Thompson, the daughter of a well-known Scottish farmer, was announced.

[*Photo, Swaine.*
CAPTAIN JOHN C. LAUDER.

A Very Popular Officer.

The young officer, who was unusually popular with all ranks, was the pride of his father's heart, and the son was devoted to his parents. Mr. Lauder sent him to Cambridge University, intending that he should devote himself to law, but the war changed that ambition, and Mr. Lauder's latest wish, according to a characteristic article published in the "Illustrated Sunday Herald," was "to see him established in the North as a decent Scots laird, growing the nation's meat, and, as the years go by, growing the nation's men." Owing to Mr. Lauder's bereavement the Shaftesbury Theatre will remain closed until Thursday evening.

His Splendid Cheery Letters.

Only those of us who know Harry Lauder, and know his deep earnestness and splendid sympathetic convictions, can estimate what a terrible blow the loss of his gallant son will be to him; and, above all, to his wife, a kindly lady, beloved by all who have the privilege to know her. It was only a few days ago that dear old friend Harry was telling me how his brave boy—somehow or other—whatever stress of battle and other suffering—found means to write to his mother every day, if it were only a line. He showed me several of dear young Jack's latest letters, written since he was last wounded.

His Latest.

And then Lauder showed me what must have been, I fancy, the last letter written home. What he said to his dear parents is, of course, sacred. But Harry Lauder drew my special attention to a pencilled postscript, which said, "Just going into action again! God bless you all!"

Mr. Harry Lauder left London for Scotland on Monday night after the receipt of a telegram making known to him the sudden illness of Mrs. Lauder. Accompanying Mr. Lauder was Mrs. Yallance, his agent's wife, and Miss Thomjson, the late Captain Lauder's fiancée.

Royal Sympathy.

The equerry to Queen Alexandra sent a message expressive of her Majesty's deep sympathy, while Sir Henry Dalziel telephoned last night: "I wish to convey the Prime Minister's deepest sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Lauder in this awful blow." The Earl of Derby conveyed his condolences, together with a promise to have inquiries made as to the exact circumstances of Captain Lauder's death. It is understood that the gallant young officer was killed instantaneously by an exploding shell, either in retiring from a trench on temporary relief or in entering the trench on a very exposed part of the front.

Messages of Condolence.

Letters and telegrams have indeed come from all sections of society and the public generally, many of whom had known Mr. Lauder only in his professional capacity. Among many who have sent messages of condolence are Sir Thomas Dewar, Sir Thomas Lipton, Mr. Alfred Butt, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. George Robey, Miss Vesta Tilley and Mr. Walter de Frece, the Three Arts Club, Mr. and Mrs. Grahame White, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Mark Sheridan, Mr. R. G. Knowles, Mr. Herman Darewski, and theatrical managers throughout Great Britain.

Frank Harvey Fit and Well.

I am pleased to hear that the report which was circulated last week that Frank Harvey (Surrey Rifles) had died somewhere in France is unfounded. His sister, Katie Marsh, has had a letter from him this week in which he states he is fit and well, the popular Harvey boy wishing all friends a happy and prosperous New Year.

An Ideal Principal Boy.

Miss Dorothy Ward, the clever and captivating principal boy in "Boy Blue" at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, where she is an immense favourite, will, I hear, be seen in a new West End production at the end of her pantomime engagement. I understand Miss Ward has under consideration an offer to appear in revue next Christmas.

Miss Dora Christian.

Managers will do well to note a young soprano, Miss Dora Christian, who is now filling the part recently vacated by Miss Pearl Grey in "The Bing Boys Are Here." Trained in the Argentine, and possessing all the attributes essential for light opera, this artiste should go far. She sings with great charm Mr. Ivor Novello's song, "The Garden of England."

Erne Chester's Bereavement.

Erne Chester, of May Erne and "He," had a sad journey from Huddersfield to Northampton on Thursday last to attend the funeral of his mother. Erne wishes through these columns to express his grateful appreciation of the many expressions of sympathy he has received in his bereavement.

Victoria Palace Matinées.

Mr. Alfred Butt has decided to give a matinée of the full evening programme at the Victoria Palace every Wednesday, in response to numerous suggestions, more especially from suburban patrons. This week's fine programme includes Lilian Braithwaite in "Rosalind," by J. M. Barrie, Odette Myrtil and her violin, those delightful entertainers at the piano, Messrs. Stanley Kirkby and Harry Hudson, the Wolkowski Troupe of whirlwind dancers, accompanied by a Russian Balalaika Orchestra, Pat Clarke, a dancing juggler, Flora Cromer, J. H. Scotland, and Austin Rudd.

Eddie Reed.

Sergeant G. A. Reed, No. 13288, 25th Royal Fusiliers, who has been for the past two years in British East Africa, is, I regret to hear, at present in hospital in Africa suffering from malaria. Eddie Reed, as he will be remembered by many of my readers, is the son of T. Reed Pinaud and Miss Florrie Robina. He wishes all friends a Happy New Year.

Our Gracious Queen.

Those members of the dramatic and variety professions who gave their services so generously at the recent matinée at the Palace Theatre, Hammersmith, will be interested in hearing that, as a result of their efforts Her Majesty the Queen sent the following gracious message to manager Bertram J. Seabrook on the occasion of the War Orphans' Christmas Treat, which was the outcome of that event:—"Buckingham Palace.—To Seabrook, Palace, Hammersmith. I am commanded by the Queen to thank you for your telegram, and to ask you to convey to the widows and orphans Her Majesty's appreciation of their good wishes. The Queen hopes they are all enjoying themselves.—Edward Warrington."

"Love, Here is My Heart."

The Femina Quartette were featuring with great success at the Holborn Empire and elsewhere last week that delightful ballad, "Love, Here is My Heart," their fine rendering of which received the heartiest of applause. There is, I hear, a great demand for this number, which is published in four keys—D flat, E flat, F and G—by Ascherberg, Hopwood and Crew, Ltd.

An Advertisement Note.

My readers should note that, owing to war conditions, advertisements for "The Era" cannot be received after four o'clock on Tuesdays.

"The Era" New Offices.

"The Era" is now installed in palatial new premises on the first floor at 35, Wellington-street, nearly opposite its late address, and a few doors from its old home of many years ago. The telephone number remains the same—Regent 4546-7.

Divina, who is appearing as solo dancer in "The Babes in the Wood" at the Strand, is the talented pupil of Mme. Cormani, and has lately appeared at the Golder's Green Hippodrome, the Bedford Palace of Varieties, and the Kilburn Empire with great success. She is an operatic dancer of the Italian school, and, for a child of her age, is one of the cleverest exponents of the art in this country. At the Strand she is meeting with a great reception from enthusiastic audiences for her two solos, one of which is performed in the beautiful fountain scene.

[*Photo by Basil.*
DIVINA, THE MINIATURE PAVLOVA

Liverpool Olympia Circus.

The fourth year of the great circus at the Liverpool Olympia promises to be as successful as previous ones. Even at advanced prices the vast place is crowded, and on Monday afternoon particularly the "house" was a sight to be remembered. The Grenadier Guards band have now introduced selections from popular operatic works, and on Friday evening next the younger members of the audience are to receive souvenirs in the shape of a complete cardboard circus.

Death of N. C. Bostock.

Mr. N. C. Bostock, one of the older school of comedians, has, I learn, just passed away at his home at Gateshead. With his robust voice, and possessed of a merry humour, Bostock was known as the "Comic King," and on both sides of the Border his name on a programme was for many years always a sure draw. In the seventies particularly he was a great favourite at the old Britannia, Glasgow.

"Sodger Jock."

Mr. Bostock claimed to be one of the first comedians to initiate music hall audiences into the mysteries of the Highland costume as worn by the Scotch comedian. This he did when he first introduced his famous impersonation, "Sodger Jock." Mr. Bostock, who had been for some time in indifferent health, was sixty-six. Of genial disposition, he will be mourned by many friends.

"Snowballs."

Windish and Mayee are producing their new act, "Snowballs," at the Hippodrome, Putney, this week. Lauri Wylie and Alfred Parker are responsible for the script, and J. W. Jackson is responsible for a clever dance. Lauri Wylie is also producing the act, and with Charlie Windish supervising the music the act should have a successful run on the principal halls.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, on behalf of the committee, wishes to thank the following for donations:—Mr. Walter de Frece, £10 10s.; Variety Artistes' Federation (per Mr. Fred Russell), £13 19s.; Miss Fanny Dent (per Miss Lottie Albert), £1 1s.; Mrs. Emily Synge Hutchinson, £1 1s.; Mr. Jack Hurst (the Black Cat), home on leave from the trenches, 10s.; Miss E. G. Clarke, 5s.; Miss Louie Vere, 5s., and collecting the 15s. from members of the "Butterflies" company, and Miss Irene Rose, collecting 9s. 7d. Mr. C. B. Cochran is thanked for parcel of gentlemen's shirts, and the Five Real Sisters for a parcel of presents for children.

Would any gentlemen be kind enough to send left-off props. The Guild are in great need of ladies' outer garments and small boys' topcoats; wigs, grease paints, &c., for soldiers away who are giving concerts for the amusement of their wounded comrades? My readers will be glad to hear that Miss Melinda May is back in office.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Harry Gribben officiated as W.T., Jack Barker as V.T., George Cooper as G.C., Walter Norman as W.I., Ted Karno as W.D., Ernest D'Almaine as Y.B., and Arthur Were as organist. A hearty welcome was extended to C. Yettmah and Jack Hurst upon their re-appearance in the Kennel.

Letters have been received from Terriers Joe Redfern (France), Fred Dunstone (France), Jack Shevill (Mesopotamia), Jack Harris (Germany), John Earl (Salisbury Plain), Harry Alvey (Aldershot), Herbert Clarkin (Mediterranean). The election of officers for January resulted as follows:—W.T., Harry Gribben; V.T., Ernest D'Almaine; organist, Ernest Powell. The annual general meeting of the Order will be held on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 5.30 p.m.

For the Widows and Orphans.

It has been the custom at the Empire, Wolverhampton, since the outbreak of war, at this season of the year to provide the widows and orphans of those gallant lads who have paid the great sacrifice with not only an entertainment, but a certain amount of comfort. Mr. J. B. Hyslop, who has recently been appointed manager, was out to see that this year should at any rate equal those that have gone before, and after very hard work succeeded in accomplishing his object.

The result was that £160 odd in subscriptions were obtained from the patrons and members of the staff, which enabled each widow to receive 4lbs. of beef, with an additional 1lb. for each child. Over 690 widows and orphans were present, who, for a brief time at least, were able to partly forget their sorrow in the entertainment provided gratuitously by the artistes. Mr. Hyslop is to be congratulated on his efforts.

"Cinderella,"

presented by Messrs. C. A. Stephenson, A. M. Norris, and Miss Vivien Carter, played to big business last week at the Hippodrome, Richmond. This week the pantomime occupies the full bill at the Hippodrome, Golders Green, and, judging by the fine house on Monday, and the reception accorded this excellent company, I shall prophesy that the returns at the paybox will be highly satisfactory to all concerned. The pantomime is booked for a long run, with only three weeks vacant.

The Profession with the Colours.

Arthur George Tullman, the Human Billiard Table, and Joe Adams, the world's champion neck-catcher, have been serving in the R.F.A. for more than a year. Both have been wounded, Joe rather seriously, I regret to hear, but his many friends will join me in wishing him a quick recovery. Arthur Tullman is an American who volunteered for the British Army. Good luck to him!

Fred Karno's Latest Discovery.

Mr. Fred Karno, who can claim to have "found" many present-day "stars" in the fun-making line, has, I hear, a new discovery in Archie Glen. Archie is at present playing Buttons in "Cinderella" at the King's, Edinburgh, with great success, and at the conclusion of the pantomime will appear in Fred Karno's revue, "On and Off."

Same Revue—Different Name.

I have lately been in receipt of many complaints from frequenters of our variety houses—particularly in the provinces—of a grievance from which they have suffered more than once. This is the "dodge" of sending the same revue to a town twice within a short period, and on the second occasion changing the title. It is a practice which is unfair to the audiences—in many instances mainly composed of "Tommies"—and they naturally resent being "had." And it is one that must surely prove harmful eventually to the revue proprietor and the house where it is played.

THE PILGRIM.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE COLISEUM.

The holiday folk, who consider no week complete without a visit to the Coliseum, are getting splendid value for their money this week, for with one exception every single turn is new, and the programme has been admirably rearranged to make it as unlike what they saw before as possible. Sketches no longer occupy the chief place on the programme, but instead we have variety turns of the best and brightest. Those two fixed stars of the variety world, Miss Vesta Tilley and Mr. Wilkie Bard, are at present casting their radiance twice a day on the Coliseum firmament. In her three songs—all, we believe, new—Miss Vesta Tilley is in turn a middy, a nut, and a war-worn soldier just home on leave. The first song, "We're All Playing the Game in the Navy," has a first-rate refrain, and is sung by Miss Tilley with splendid vigour and jolly abandon; the second, "A Fortnight in July," referring to the annual holiday of the "swanky" bank clerk, has an excellent last verse, in which the singer shows how she can touch the heart as well as tickle the imagination; and the last with a chorus beginning "It's a fine time for the soldier when he's home on his six days' leave," is just in the vein of the Tommy happiest when hardships reach their limit, grumbling as soon as his job is of the "cushy" kind. The "set" for the third song is more elaborate than usual. It represents Victoria Station with a free buffet, surrounded by lads in khaki, waitresses, nurses, luggage trucks, no porters—just as we see it to-day. Mr. Wilkie Bard, master of the quietly incisive manner, convulses the house with his impromptu song of "Lancasheer" and "Northoomberland," and also as a railway porter at a Welsh station. The clever Australian mimics, Lorna and Toots Pounds, give some capital parodies of the style of Mr. G. P. Huntley, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, and Mlle. Gaby Deslys; while that irrepressible pair, Beatie and Babs, indulge in half an hour's gay, exuberant fooling, to the huge delight of an audience that never fails to revel in their youth and high spirits. Rinaldo, the wandering musician, fiddles beautifully, and the attraction of the music is enhanced by the careless Bohemian charm of the fiddler. Miss Laura Novea, a Belgian singer with a fine voice, renders French and English songs with dramatic feeling; Manny and Roberts, a couple of original comedians and dancers, add to the gaiety of the programme; an acrobatic trio, the Barts, perform some clever balancing feats; and a first-rate turn is given by the Kenna Brothers, who display great skill and much humour in a novel trapeze turn. Mr. Joseph Coyne in "Step in the Office" is still in the bill.

LONDON PAVILION.

The Christmas programme at this popular house is in two parts, the first consisting of a number of excellent variety turns, and the second of a revue medley. In the latter are included some fourteen items, being the brightest of the gems from the last two Pavilion revues, "Honi Soit" and "Pick-a-Dilly."

One of the most interesting turns in the variety portion was the appearance of Max Darewski. On Friday evening, after opening with a Chopin Polonaise, which he rendered with fine feeling, the accomplished pianist gave some clever variations of popular songs, including "The Broken Doll" and "Tennessee." J. Frances Dooley and Corinne Sales, described as the "new" stars, have an amusing way of their own, and their good-natured fun, and Miss Sales' infectious laughter, speedily won their way right home. Their turn is a delightful and inconsequent medley of song and story. Their best number was the mosquito song, which was inimitably rendered.

The other variety items included Harry Tate and his boys in the very funny "Fishing" episode; Lewis Douglas, in a new darkie song, which includes a capital dance for that clever artiste, in which he is finely assisted by the Eight Pav. Girls; Lucille Benstead, whose two songs, and noticeably "God send you back to me," were well applauded; the comedy sketch from "Pick-a-Dilly," "Nothing ever happens to Jones," one of the best bits of fun ever put into a revue; the "Alone at last" restaurant episode from "Honi Soit" and Brightie and Carlyon, a clever comedy duo.

In the revue medley the brilliant collection of artistes who constitute the Pavilion revue company all work excellently in the well-chosen items. They open with the "Hello, Audience," song, in which the whole company appears. The "Show Girls" follow, delightfully personified by Amy Elliott, Dorothy Hanson, and Kitty Fielder, and then Avice Kelham, a new and fascinating member of the company, sings the "Tantalising Eyes" number. A very good song is "Mr. Bottomley," which has been brought up to date for James Godden, and that first-rate comedian and character actor appears as the Adjutant of the splendidly disciplined Pick-a-Dilly Squad. "The Gout Walk," danced so amusingly by Alfred Austin and Lewis Douglas, is wisely retained, the latter also appearing in the page boy dance from "Honi Soit." One of the cleverest things in the medley is the delicious melodramatic burlesque acted with a real sense of imitative comedy by James Godden, Dahlia Gordon, Alfred Austan, Amy Elliott, Dorothy Hanson, and Dorothy Jordan. The other delectable items which follow each other in quick succession include Kitty Fielder and Alfred Austin in the matrimonial squabble entitled "The Agony Column"; those graceful dancers, Alex. Goudin and Andree Dhery, in the "Kiss Waltz" and "The Polka"; the Piccadilly Grill song for Avice Kelham and the chorus, "Tra! La! La!"; the Spanish burlesque, and the spirited "Pom! Pom! Pom!" finishing chorus, in which the audience participates in the battle of the pom poms.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

When we arrived at this popular hall on Monday we found the collective energies of the staff in front concentrated on the somewhat formidable task of finding room for would-be patrons. Certainly when the first number went up the holding capacity was completely taxed. The bill, as is always the case here, was excellent—a fact which accounts for the holiday enthusiasm of the audience. Charles Austin and company are appearing in the well-known farcical sketch, "Parker's Wedding. This affords unlimited scope for this popular comedian's humour, and the audience were kept in a continual state of laughter. Charles is a persona grata in Hackney, and his personal call at the end must have convinced him of the fact.

Another most popular and attractive item is the musical show presented by Stanley Kirby and Harry Hudson. Both are accomplished and experienced entertainers, and the number of items they had to render was a sure indication of the entire success which attended their efforts. The Goodalls submitted a smart acrobatic performance, their somersaults being wonderful. Bert Harrow appeared in two songs, both of which go well, as does his patter, some of his jokes being really good. Ina Lorimer so gives a couple of numbers, the second being given in a very becoming Highland attire. Her dancing, too, is neat, and she was well received. Whit Cunliffe, who is also billed, could not appear, the Comedy Meisters deputising. Their singing is as attractive as ever.

Lydia and Francis present a series of French acrobatic dances, all of which were given with exceptional dexterity and vigour, a call being accorded. The Three Prodigies appear in a musical act. All the children are talented, particularly Dorothy, who is the solo pianist, and their reception was of a most enthusiastic nature. The war in pictures concluded, and a word is due to Mr. Matt and his capital orchestra of ladies.

BROTHERS EGBERT,
Walter and Bill, "Cinderella," London Opera House.

THE GRANVILLE.

A prominent position on the bill here is occupied by Tom Leamore, who has a couple of good numbers, one, a nautical ditty which is quite new, and the other anent the pawnbroking trade, which proved very acceptable to the audience. Another favourite turn was that provided by the Lannons, champion double high-pedestal dancers, who were accorded a most enthusiastic reception.

Daisy Griff, a new and young star, starting with a bright song, "In the West," proceeds via numerous changes of attire to a capital piece of dancing, thence, of course, to several curtain calls. Miss Roza Beryl, a very charming little comedienne, gives a couple of numbers in a dainty and unaffected manner, followed by some graceful dancing. In addition capital work is put in by Ludlow and Chase, a couple of excellent vocalists; Mr. Charles Stevens, who is the idol of Walham Green audiences; La Belle Nello, a speciality artiste of distinction with some wonderful acrobatic dancing; Carlton Howard, a magic muddler, responsible for a good number of merry moments; and last, but not least, the Courtiers, that excellent combination of singers and actors founded by a well-known artiste was alas no more. The orchestra is still under the capable direction of Mr. Sarsfield O'Dwyer, and Mr. Jimmy McCarthy, the popular manager, reports the most excellent business.

Congratulations.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Benn entertained on Christmas Day a host of friends on the occasion of their silver wedding. It was, I hear, a very happy gathering, and I add my congratulations to the many received by Mr. and Mrs. Benn.

Harry Ray and Lillie Calden, in "Find the Lady," are scoring a great success this week at the Empire, Edmonton, where they are paying their first visit to town after a successful tour, extending over two and a half years.

"BUBBLE AND SQUEAK" AT NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Musical Farce, in One Scene, Written by George Carney, Music and Lyrics by George Hughes.

Septimus Simpkins..Mr. George Carney
Pearl Vernon .....Miss Vesta Pine
Minnie Higgins .....Miss Minnie Pine
Lancelot Grubb ....Mr. Billy Lascelles
Winkle ..... Mr. Leonard Richford
Liza Hawkins ..Miss Winnie Richford
Miss Bubble ..... Miss Billy Kendall
Nobby Clarke .....Mr. Fred Smith
Timothy Underwood
Mr. George Hughes

This is one of those shows that make revue worth while. Full of brilliant comedy of the farcical kind, and with a host of pretty girls always well in the picture (and a very pretty picture at that, for the scenery by Howard and Howers with electrical effects by Overs is very fine), the show goes with a swing from start to finish.

The one scene is a matrimonial agency, and this gives opportunity for plenty of fun. The plot is quite a good one, and keeps one's interest well alive throughout. It centres around Pearl Vernon, an heiress, who comes to the agency to seek an impecunious husband, preferably a coster. Lancelot Grubb, the proprietor of the agency, eventually wins the lady's hand, and Simpkins, who was also well placed, has to be satisfied with that of the servant, whilst another leading character, Timothy Underwood, marries his housekeeper, who has pursued him throughout the show.

Mr. George Carney gives a very funny performance as Septimus Simkins. It is a character quite after Mr. Carney's own heart, and he just revels in it. His "Beauty Chorus" number and his "Happy Day" duet with Miss Minnie Pine revealed Mr. Carney in a new light, but it is his farcical powers with which he scores chiefly. His method of misconception is responsible for most of the humour in the show. Miss Vesta Pine, as the heiress, was also most successful. She has a keen sense of the comedy side of things, and sang well a khaki number with the chorus appriately clad. Miss Minnie Pine contributed an effective low comedy study of Minnie Higgins, and Miss Billy Kendall as Miss Bubble and Miss Winnie Richford as a coster girl were both very successful in all they had to do.

Mr. Billy Lascelles was quite good as Lancelot Grubb, and sang his seaside glide number excellently, and Mr. George Hughes achieved success as Timothy Underwood, singing a munition girl's number very well. He showed his ability as an actor in several very funny and quite new gags with Mr. Carney. The "committing suicide" and "disguises" gags were both gems. Mr. Leonard Richford, as the page, danced well, and Mr. Fred Smith in a small part was quite a success. A real beauty chorus, in some of the prettiest frocks imaginable, adorn the stage from time to time, and Mr. Phil Howley, who produced, deserves praise for his work.

The interesting musical combination known as the Leslie Orgelist Trio, had a gratifying reception at the Golder's Green Hippodrome last week. The trio consists of Will Leslie, late of Leslie Brothers, the Australian musical duo, who plays the saxophone and French horn; Hinemoa Leslie, an attractive young artiste, with a clear soprano voice, who sings very effectively "Till You Come Home Again" and "Dream of Delight"; and, lastly, Nellie Orgelist Leslie, a little lady of some eleven years, who plays the flute and the piccolo. The act is given in an attractive setting, and the instrumental programme is varied by some amusing Australian stories told by Mr. Leslie.

Miss Olga Torby, the gifted young prima donna, is playing principal boy with big success in Tom Vernon's touring pantomime, "Bo-Peep," which is already booked for a long run, mainly on the Moss tour. This is Miss Torby's first venture in pantomime.

During the return voyage from South America on board the ss. Highland Rover, the Gerards and Miss Hut Ell organised an entertainment in aid of the Red Cross, with the kind assistance of the following:—Captain Ashby Graves, Wally Hearn, dancer; Miss Wally Walton, soprano; Miss Julia Dumont, monologues; and Mrs. Aylward, chansonettes. At the conclusion the Allies' Anthems were sung. The collection resulted in a total of £9.

With this week's issue, Mr. Henry Belcham severs a connection with "The Era" extending over thirty-four years. Throughout almost the whole of that period he has been responsible for the Variety Gossip, in later years over the nom-de-plume of "The Pilgrim." During the past three and a half years he has been acting editor and leader writer.

The following artistes sail on Jan. 9 to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd.:—Gene Morelle, "Silas," Grace Bros., Togo Banzai, Jessie Star, Rosie Gaston, Marie Clarke.

The comedy-dramatic playlet, "Self-Defence," which Cora Duncan and Albert Brasque have toured successfully for the last twelve months, will be back in town again at the Granville, Walham Green, on Monday. Denton Spencer, the author, tells me he has another sketch in preparation for the same artistes, entitled "The Yellow Spider."

Mr. Tom Leamore is scoring a great hit with his new number, "Good-bye, Mother, Good-bye, Dad," no doubt the chorus song of the New Year. This song is written and composed by Mr. Leamore, who has been cheered to the echo nightly.

On Friday, Jan. 26, an all-star matinée will be given at the Holborn Empire, the proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of a motor ambulance for V.A.D. No. 1 of the British Red Cross Society.

Chas. B. Williams, late principal comedian, "Line Up Here" revue, has been engaged to star as principal comedian in H. Palton's "Darlings" revue. The engagement was arranged by the V.B.O. Agency. Mr. Williams opened on Monday at the Hippo., Mexboro'. "Darlings" will be seen in London shortly.

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TAKE ME BACK TO DEAR OLD BLIGHTY

&

SOME NIGHT, SOME WALTZ, SOME GIRL

A few of the Artistes who have made record Panto. Hits with these numbers:

Ella Retford	Opera House
Victoria Carmen	Lyceum Theatre
Kathleen Gray	Strand Theatre
Madge Titheradge	Drury Lane Theatre
Irene Dillon...	Kennington Theatre
Neville Delmar	Marlborough Theatre
Alice Belmore	Brixton Theatre
Lillie Lassah	Elephant and Castle Theatre
Ida Crispi	Borough, Stratford
Leslie Stiles...	Palladium
Connie Emerald...	New, Wimbledon
Rose Murray	Grand, Croydon
Clara Beck	Gaiety, Dublin
Ouida Macdermott	Opera House, Belfast
Daisy Dormer	Grand, Leeds
Lily Morris	Tyne, Newcastle
Daisy Taylor	Palace, Manchester
Beatrice Allen	Queen's, Manchester
Myra Hammon	Alexandra, Birmingham
Mabel Medrow	Opera House, Southport
Lillie Soutter	Court, Liverpool
Ivy Popham	Opera House, Middlesbrough
Maisie Ayling	Theatre Royal, Glasgow
Josie Delaine	Princesses, Glasgow
Marie Brayman	Theatre Royal, Edinburgh
Katie Kay	King's, Edinburgh
Gladys Mavins	Grand, Derby
Pearl Grey	His Majesty's, Aberdeen
Maisie Gerrard	Palace, Ramsgate
Nan Taylor...	Theatre Royal, Worcester
Lily Iris	Theatre Royal, Sheffield
Olga Torby	Coliseum, Glasgow
Mollie Butler	Theatre Royal, Exeter
Kitty Curtis	Pavilion, Liverpool
Aithna Gover	Grand, Hull
Stella Pearl	Winter Gardens, New Brighton
Marion Scott	Empire, Belfast
Gaye Gordon	Theatre Royal, Brighton
Olive Williams	Theatre Royal, Huddersfield
Millie Jillson	Royalty, Chester
Mabel Costello	Theatre Royal, Hanley
Florrie Forde	Hippodrome, Stockton
Louie Beckman	Princes, Bristol
Lillie Langtry	Grand, Plymouth
Lily Vine	New Theatre, Cardiff
May Poulton	Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne
Marie Reeve	Hippodrome, Croydon
Rene Ralph	Empire, Kilburn
Mona Wells...	Grand, Nottingham
Blanche Marion	County, Reading

Ella Retford	Opera House
Victoria Carmen...	Lyceum Theatre
Ivy Tremayne	Strand Theatre
Sisters Reeve	Middlesex
Irene Dillon...	Kennington Theatre
Enid Bell	Marlborough Theatre
Gladys Carlton	Brixton Theatre
Misses Gordon and Derrick	King's, Hammersmith
Gladys Soman	Kingston Theatre
Jennie Lynwood...	Dalston Theatre
Haidee de Rance	Empire, Kilburn
Eva Macdonald	Hippodrome, Willesden
Clara Beck	Gaiety, Dublin
Ouida Macdermott	Opera House, Belfast
Violet Blythe	Theatre Royal, Leeds
Daisy West-Collins	Princes, Bradford
Misses Haytor and Bindon...	Queen's, Manchester
Dorothy Ward	Theatre Royal, Biamingham
Jennie Hylton	Hippodrome, Birkenhead
Mabel Medrow	Opera House, Southport
Lillian Major	Court, Liverpool
Aimee Stewart	Opera House, Middlesbrough
Denise Sutherland	Theatre Royal, Glasgow
Misses Reeve & Manchester	Princesses, Glasgow
Blanche Pearl	Theatre Royal, Edinburgh
Dorothy Belmore	King's, Edinburgh
Gladys Mavins	Grand, Derby
Gladys Nelson	His Majesty's, Aberdeen
Maisie Gerrard	Palace, Ramsgate
Nan Taylor	Theatre Royal, Worcester
Margot Joyce	Theatre Royal, Sheffield
Olga Torby	Coliseum, Glasgow
Mollie Butler	Theatre Royal, Exeter
Minnie Muir	Pavilion, Liverpool
Carda Walker	Theatre Royal, Portsmouth
Stella Pearl...	Winter Gardens, New Brighton
Molly M'Carthy	Theatre Royal, Bolton
Gaye Gordon	Theatre Royal, Brighton
Olive Williams	Theatre Royal, Huddersfield
Josie Hammersley	Opera House, Leicester
Miss Maynard	Carlton, Fredericks
Millie Rouse	Theatre Royal, Bury
Nellie Babbie	Grand, Blackpool
Hilda Thorpe	Opera House, Cheltenham
Eva Rosslyn	New, Oxford
Gladys Erskine	Theatre Royal, Bournemouth
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VARIETY CARDS.

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IMPORTANT TO ARTISTES.

Additions and Corrections to these Cards must reach us not later than Tuesday, 4 p.m.

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SYD MAY
MIMIC. HIPPODROME, IPSWICH.
Return Town Monday next. Commence, February 5, 10 weeks (4th Tour) with Controlling Companies. If Vacant, and special duties will allow, shall be pleased to place my small services at the disposal of anyone who should require same, free, for any Charitable or Hospital Concerts whilst in town.
Coms., 130, AMESBURY AVENUE, STREATHAM HILL, LONDON.

THE HOLSONS
BROKERS' MEN.
Terrific Success, Gulliver Circuit.
This Week - - - OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH.
Next Week - - - HIPPODROME, BALHAM.

EDIS and FORBES
"FRESH HAIR."
Panto Season Mr. Joe Collins. Principal Comedian and Principal Girl.
This Week, HIPPO., NORWICH. Next, HIPPO., IPSWICH.

LEW LAKE'S FIRST TWO CHILDREN
DALY & HEALY
MAKING THE CUSTOMERS LAUGH
Month of January, ALHAMBRA, PARIS.

"THAT'S THE STUFF TO GIVE 'EM!" Sung by HARRY FREEMAN.
Hear my Great Motto Song,
"SLOG ON! SLOG ON!"
GEORGE GRANT
Author and Composer.
22, CAMDEN AVENUE, FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.
"DIDN'T THEY COME BACK." Sung by PAT RAFFERTY.
Publishers: Messrs. FRANCIS, DAY and HUNTER.

BROS. SHANKS
"BOY BLUE" PANTOMIME.
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, ABERDEEN.

JOHN LESTER and HIS!
(Late 2 LESTERS & CO.)
Versatile Comedy Entertainers, with their UPSIDE-DOWN BAND.
This Week, HUDDERSFIELD.

JACKSON HYLTON
Composer.
HARRY DAY'S PRODUCTIONS.
All coms. to DAY'S AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

ENNIS PARKES
Lead in Harry Day's "EYES FRONT" Co.
This Week, HIPPODROME, ILFORD.
New Year's Greetings.

HORACE JONES
Starring Principal Comedy Part in
Harry Day's Revue, "FALL IN!"
This Week - - - HIPPODROME, BALHAM.

LEW LAKE presents Britain's Premier Film Comedian
"PIMPLE"
In one of the Funniest Burlesques ever presented to the Public.
This Week, HIPPODROME, RICHMOND.
All coms., LEW LAKE.

Mr. HYMACK
"AT BOGEY VILLA." A Protean Perplexity.
This Week, HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE. Next, PAVILION, LIVERPOOL.
WILL COLLINS & CO. or WILL DALTON.

COMPANIES WANTED, January 15 and 22 (twice nightly), Musical Comedy preferred; February 12, 26, March 19, and April 2.
Apply, SYDNEY BRANSGROVE, Lake's Variety Agency, 1A, Southampton Row, W.C.

LAKE'S VARIETY AGENCY

Telephone: MUSEUM 2176. **1a, SOUTHAMPTON ROW.** **Telegrams: "Moccadora, London."**

POINTS FOR THE CINEMA COMMISSION.

BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

Within a few days—on Jan. 8 to be precise—the Cinema Commission begins its sittings at the Guildhall.

It will be all the better for the important work undertaken by the Commission if the ground be cleared of the vast accumulation of garbage and verbiage that blocks the way to the real issues at stake. It is an essential point to be remembered all the time that the Commission is a court of justice, that the judges are specially selected on their public record as competent men and women to deal justly with both accusers and defendants.

THE CHARACTER OF THE CHILD.

Our first point, and the most essential of all the points because it is the raison d'etre of the investigation, is the child. It is well that a competent tribunal should sit and clear the character of the British child from the mountains of ignorant prejudice and slander, under which tremendous burden the child, like another Atlas, labours. It will be for the Commission to ascertain by getting down to the very present-day conditions of child-life what the child suffers, what the child thinks, what the child would have if he could command the circumstances.

What a wondrous world is the fairyland of childhood! In my judgment—and I speak with special knowledge of infinite sympathy with child life—the child of to-day, even in the most poverty-ridden slums, is better cared for, has vastly improved conditions of life, to that which obtained within the fulness of my own memory and experience. I venture to claim that, considering the question as only such questions can be considered in its broadest and in its national aspects, instead of jeremiads of weeping and lamentation over a fancied depravity of child life we should thank God for the immense improvements, for the whole uplift of the conditions of life in the slums of our great cities. Compared with the conditions of half a century ago, present-day conditions are in every way better.

It is for the friends and advocates of cheap amusement and recreation for our children to take a bold stand and to submit overwhelming and irrefutable evidence that the alleged objectionable tendencies of cinema and other popular amusements are not borne out by the actualities of life.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Considerable impression has been made upon the general public by citing the figures of juvenile delinquency for two years prior to war-time conditions and two years of war experience. The late Home Secretary, Mr. Herbert Samuel, one of the keenest of living statesmen—the author, be it remembered, of one of the finest Acts upon the statute-book, The Children's Act—at the recent Home Office Conference on juvenile delinquency, treated with candid indifference the allegations against the cinema. Reducing the evidence into its proper order and sequence, he attributed the increase in the records of juvenile delinquency to four causes—First, the absence of strict parental control owing to father being in the trenches; the closing down of the various religious and educational agencies that claim the attention of the slum child and keep it under good guidance; the darkness of our streets, coupled with the great reduction in number of that great moral guardian of our streets, the genuine policeman; and, lastly, in Mr. Samuel's judgment, the cinema might possibly have had a slight effect upon child-life.

I have two important points that bear upon this question, and I marvel at the ineptitude of the Home Office investigators in omitting them in the official statement. My first point is the absence of the moral guardianship in a great number of the homes, of big brother and big sister. All social workers in the great industrial centres know that brothers and sisters are the moral censors of the street corners and of the general conduct of the children.

My second point under vital statistics constitutes the strongest argument and vindication of the cinema yet submitted. It is one, however, of which the Home Office Conference gives no account. I want these figures to sink deep down into the minds of the people. Of the five millions of men now defending their country at home and abroad, three millions have passed under the educational and moral influences of the photo-play. Here is my position: What deeds of heroism, what grand individual sacrifices, what magnificent enthusiasm, what marvels of endurance, faith and perseverance have been fostered and strengthened by the cinema!

The answer is the victorious triumphs of our citizen army, with its three millions of big, boisterous boys who have laughed with Charlie Chaplin, wept with the great masters of the British drama both dramatic and cinema, and have felt the heroic impulses to British pluck in the masterpieces of Conan Doyle, Sir Gilbert Parker, and the other great story-tellers whose names spell out the glory of English literature.

Filmland

NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PICTURE WORLD

"SHELL 43."

BRITISH SECRET SERVICE AGENT, POSING AS A GERMAN SPY, REVEALS TO THE ALLIES THE VITAL POINT IN THE ENEMY'S POSITION.

Production .....Triangle
Star .....Mr. N. B. Warner
Type .....Melodrama
Length ..... Five Reels

One of the finest screen-dramas bearing relation to the war was that shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday last. In addition to many intensely realistic scenes, it has an ingenious plot, and we are left until the finish to find out whether the leading character is friend or foe. This individual is Wilhelm Berners, of the

H. B. Warner in "Shell 43."
[*Triangle.*

Imperial German Intelligence Bureau, the hidden brain behind the German military machine, whose every movement is directed by him through the commanders in the field. We follow the military operations of the opposing armies, and witness the devilish uses to which all the wonderful inventions of science, both on land and in the air, are put. A remarkable denouement shows Berners revealing himself in his true character of a British Secret Service agent, directing, by means of a hidden telephone, the fire of the British guns on to the dominating German position, well knowing that its destruction will, at the same time, mean his own death. We invite the attention of renters to this remarkable film, which is a sure winner.

[*See our Film Marking.*]

"HONOUR THY NAME."

FATHER, TO SAVE HIS SON FROM THE RESULTS OF A DISASTROUS MARRIAGE, PLUNGES THE TRAP CONTAINING THE WIFE AND HIMSELF, OVER AN EMBANKMENT, BOTH BEING KILLED.

Production .....Essanay
Star .....Mr. Charles Ray
Type .....Drama

A familiar story, with an unfamiliar ending, is that with the above-named title. Mr. Castleton, thinking it time his son saw more of the world, sends him away from his country home to town, with the result that the boy becomes surrounded by bad companions of both sexes. He becomes enamoured of a young woman known to her associates as the Night Moth, and eventually marries her. Shortly afterwards, to his chagrin, she demands to be taken to his father's home, where naturally she is coldly received. The father, noting that his son is unhappy with his wife, secretly asks her what amount of money she will take to go. She replies that 20,000 dollars will bring about her departure, but she will not promise to relinquish her husband. The next morning they depart in an open carriage, in order to go to the bank for the money. On the journey the father makes one more appeal to her to release his son, but she again refuses, and the old man, in desperation, drives the horse over the side of a steep embankment, and both are killed. The photographic quality and effects are excellent.

"LOST—TWENTY-FOUR HOURS."

IN HIS WIFE'S ABSENCE A YOUNG HUSBAND HAS A CONVIVIAL NIGHT WITH A BACHELOR FRIEND, AND RUES THE CONSEQUENCES OF HER RETURN.

Production ..... Essanay
Stars ..... Mr. Richard Travers, Miss Warda Howard
Type ..... Comedy
Size ..... Four Acts

There is some first-rate comedy in this simple little cameo play, shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Monday, and although Dick took advantage of his wife's visit to her mother, to drink over-much champagne and then go for a joy-ride with an unscrupulous young widow, the whole production is a quite innocuous bit of fun. Mrs. Dacre, the widow, by the trick of faking a collision, becomes possessed of an I.O.U. for £1,000, and her attempt to redeem the piece of paper happens at an inopportune moment. Suffice it to say that the widow is introduced to the wife as his long-lost sister, which leads up to a number of other lies, ending in Dick being carted off to gaol. He welcomes the new-found peace until he is reluctantly released when the blackmailing plot is revealed. There is a happy ending, and he promises to be a model husband in the future.

Richard Travers acted with a real sense of comedy as the husband, and he is admirably supported by Warda Howard, as the widow, and a clever cast throughout.

[*See our Film Marking.*]

FILMLAND GOSSIP.

The Cinemas' Good Work.

The picture palaces throughout the country have been utilised more and more in order to promote various patriotic funds and for other national purposes. The Ideal Film Co. inform us that their loan of their well-known picture play, "Florence Nightingale," for a benefit performance on behalf of the Red Cross Sewing Party at Grimsby recently, was instrumental in bringing in over £20 to the fund. Recently Mr. George Robey has been putting to similar use several of the Ideal picture comedies, in which he appears. Those who speak of picture theatres as a mere means for the waste of national resources at a critical period have clearly left out of account the very great services which the cinemas are rendering to the nation at this moment in various ways.

Dorothy Gish.

In "The Little School Ma'am" (a Triangle play which will be shown to the trade next Friday) Dorothy Gish makes her first appearance with the famous Triangle group of child players. They win everybody's hearts, so, of course, won Miss Gish's, and she won theirs. These children have to go to school for a certain time each day by a law of the land, and attached to the Triangle studios there is a special school for the kiddies maintained by the company. Miss Gish wanted to be absolutely right in every detail when she played the school teacher, so she spent several afternoons as co-teacher in the school. Besides getting her part right, Dorothy says she had a wonderfully good time, and as she played with the same group of children in the picture, she was able to continue some of the actual lessons, which, say the directors, was a marked contribution to the effectiveness and realism of the schoolhouse scenes.

"The Little School Ma'am."

Dorothy Gish is the star in "The Little School Ma'am," a Triangle drama to be shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion next Friday. Miss Gish plays Nan Cartright, a Southern girl, who becomes a teacher in a small Western town. The little teacher wins the hearts of her twenty scholars, and mothers them generally; but outside of school hours she is very lonely until she meets Wilbur Howard, a young play

Agnes Herring, Louise Glaum and Charles Ray in "Honour Thy Name."
[*Triangle.*

wright, from her native State. Howard soon becomes a frequent visitor at the little red schoolhouse, and the children all become fond of him, but the gossips of the village seize the opportunity to make unkind remarks about the little schoolmistress. She takes no notice for a time, but matters speedily come to a climax. One evening she goes for a drive with Howard, the horses run away, they are both thrown out of the vehicle, and have to find their way home in the dark. The school board requests the little teacher's resignation. This leads to a stirring series of events and an interesting finish.

The Good Bad Man.

Douglas Fairbanks, the most popular actor in the United States, is the star in The Good Bad Man," another Triangle drama to be shown on Friday. He is also the author of the scenario, and that is quite enough to show that it is chock full of thrills. It is a "Western," the first in which Fairbanks has appeared, and is said to be his favourite picture. Bessie Love is seen in the chief supporting rôle.

Famous Players Releases.

The Famous Players Film Co. release in the United Kingdom, through J. D. Walker's World's Films, Ltd., "The Feud Girl," in which Hazel Dawn is the star. It is a story of wild life amongst the mountains, and the feud that has raged between two families for generations. The quarrel of the rival lovers and fight for the bride is considered one of its strongest situations.

"Silks and Satins," another Famous Players production, was released on Jan. 1. It stars Marguerite Clark as a heroine of the days of silks and satins, and may be termed a fascinating costume play of old-world romance.

Gaumont News.

The G.F.H.S. Comedies, Sets 1 and 2, are both very popular with exhibitors. Ten out of the first twelve have been released, and have certainly met with great success. Newspapers all over the country have praised these comedies. One little provincial paper, in endeavouring to describe some of the lively action in "Pirates of the Air," first of the series, has attributed the power of flying to an ordinary "common or garden" automobile. The portion of their notice referred to reads as follows: "After many adventures, the police arrive at the inn, and there is war to the knife. This finishes in many of the participants taking to the sky in aeroplanes, and the others chasing in automobiles."

Aurèle Sydney, who is best known to audiences as "Ultus," has just commenced a tour of the United Kingdom. In his travels he will visit most of the important picture theatres, and make himself personally known to the public. He will, of course, first visit those theatres which have booked the "Ultus" films.

Mr. Sydney has frequently visited theatres in the suburbs of London, sometimes accompanied by J. L. V. Leigh (Conway Bass), and together they have enacted little stunts to the great surprise and amusement of the assembled crowds.

In connection with "Ultus and the Secret of the Night," The Gaumont Film Hire Service is issuing an attractive lobby display bill for free distribution to exhibitors. The bills are 30 by 20 inches, double-crown size, made up of five of the best scenes from the film, printed in photogravure ink from very fine screen blocks, surrounded by a flat grey tint. The title of the film and suitable wording are also included, and the whole bill makes a welcome addition to any entrance hall.

Trade shows were held in the London offices of the G.F.H.S. of the first of the Gaumont photo-plays, World Brady-made, viz., Robert Warwick in "Sudden Riches." We understand that trade performances of these pictures are being given on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 2.30, each week. The subject for this week is Kitty Gordon in "Her Maternal Right." Kitty Gordon is known in America as the best-dressed woman on the screen, and films in which she appears always attract large audiences.

"The Treasure of Heaven," by Marie Corelli, the Gaumont Film Hire Service's latest acquisition, has probably received more praise from the trade and daily Press than any other film shown last year. Every report has been laudatory, and exhibitors who were able to be present at the trade shows in London heard, in the vigorous applause accorded the many artistic touches, or producer's triumphs, evidence of the impression the production will create when shown to the public. "The Treasure of Heaven" is the Tiger Film Co.'s second production. Their first, "Kent, the Fighting Man," featuring Bombardier Billy Wells, has already proved a winner.

At Hollywood an association has been formed, called the Lasky Players. The object is to give occasional performances of short plays for charitable purposes. The first performance was on Dec. 8, when "The Critic" was chosen, the well-known rehearsal scenes from this famous Sheridan play forming the programme at Glendale Elks Lodge. A second performance was given later for the Hollywood Company of Coast Artillery Federal Reserve; and yet another performance is to help the Hollywood Studio Club, which is a social and philanthropic institution for the girls of the different motion picture studios. Fanny Ward, Marie Dore, Mae Murray, Wallace Reid, Raymond Hatton, and many other of the well-known screen artistes are members of this new association.

Famous Players Film Co., Ltd.

Marguerite Clark, who visited Atlanta recently in connection with the filming of "Snow White," in which she is starred, met with a wonderful reception. The members of the local Chamber of Commerce, the Women's Club, the Writers' Club, and the Dramatic League were present to meet her on her arrival, and large bouquets of roses were presented to her by her director, Mr. J. Searle Dawley, and Mr. George Schmidt, the manager of the Alamo Theatre No. 2. The Writers' Club specially honoured Miss Clark by presenting her with their resolutions of appreciation of the type of photo-play in which she appears in the Famous Players' productions.

Music for Films.

An added attraction to the pictures is undoubtedly the appropriateness of the accompanying music; but many managers and musical directors are debarred from providing suitable selections through not having a large library, and the expense and trouble of constantly searching for, and buying new music. The London Music Lending Library (Algernon Clarke, proprietor), 28, Lonsdale-road, Barnes, S.W., have nearly every work published, and have lists of suggested music for all the well-known films. The library is added to weekly, all new popular music being obtained as soon as published.

Presentation at Buxton Picture House.

A pretty ceremony took place at Buxton Picture House on Christmas Day, this being the presentation to Mr. Geo. Taylor, the resident manager, of a heavy silver cigarette case, suitably inscribed, by the staff of the house. The presentation was made by Mr. Max Seener, musical conductor. The recipient thanked all for the good wishes expressed, and complimented them upon the good feeling maintained throughout the theatre.

The picture-loving patrons of Buxton Hippodrome have been well catered for during the holidays. "By the Shortest of Heads," a screen that lets innumerable sidelights into the great game of racing, was shown, and was all round voted excellent. Part 70, "The Red Circle," was also given, and on the last three nights of the week a feature was Mr. Martin Harvey and company in "The Broken Melody." At Buxton Picture House good business was the order. "The Ocean to Ocean Race" was a starring film. "Tatterley is a fine five-part dramatic from Tom Gallon's famous novel, and it makes a splendid sporting picture. "A Kentucky Episode" and several other attractive subjects made up a most acceptable holiday bill of fare.

Pathé Films.

On February 5 Messrs. Pathé Frères will release a novel Pathécolour film, entitled "The Growth of Plants." This film unfolds all the wonders of plant life from the tiniest seed to the most beautiful flowers. This subject is 350 ft. in length, and is a wonderful combination of the beautiful and the scientific. An interesting anecdote in connection with the Pathé Gold Rooster play Sunshine and Shadows, comes from America. The assistant director was driven to desperation during the filming of the last "Little Mary Sunshine" play by the temperamental idiosyncrasies of a collie dog that he had engaged for the part at a cost of five dollars per day. After a week's struggle the collie refused altogether to work, and the producer went nearly mad. The collie's rebellion meant just about a score of "re-takes." In his delirium the director's eye fell upon a nondescript dog that had been hanging around the studio for months, trying to get on as an extra. "I'll try him!" he yelled. And to-day that dog is a star. His salary is ten cents' worth of liver daily and all the water he can drink.

The third episode in two parts of "The Laughing Mask," Pathé's 16 episode serial, will be released on Monday, February 5. Full of excitement it shows the smuggling of the heroine from her associates, in a cognac cask. A stirring chase in a motor-car that dashes through an open drawbridge in another finely managed episode.

Max and "The Clutching Hand," to be released on February 8, is a very amusing and instructive film, and furnishes fine opportunities for the inimitable Max Linder. Max, to secure a lady's hand, undertakes to run to earth a mysterious person who will play a hoax on him every day. The fun commences when one trick after another is played on our hero by a strange masked figure with a clutching hand. The climax is reached when Max falls over a precipice, and is reduced by "The Clutching Hand," who, after Max has admitted that he is beaten, reveals herself as the lady of his heart.

Brighton Pictures.

At the Palladium there were two very fine films on Monday, the Rex drama, "The Crimson Yoke," and the London Film Co.'s production, "The Greater Need." From to-morrow the farcical comedy "Jane" and "Comin' Thro' the Rye," the version of Helen Mather's story featuring Alma Taylor.

Miss Marie Doro, filmed in "Diplomacy," and supported by an all-star cast, crowded the Academy on Monday, the French official "The Bombardment of Nieuport" being another attraction. From to-morrow Miss Ella Hall will be seen in "The Cinderella Girl."

Mary Pickford, in "Little Pal," is Mr. Robert J. Lewis's star film this week at the Queen's, and from to-morrow Albert Chevalier, in "The Fallen Star." Others are the Triangle comedy, "His Father's Footsteps," in which Ford Stirling is seen, and "Dr. Dorrey's Expectations." The orchestra here is ably conducted by Mr. Geo. Rennard.

"It is for England."

A gratifying success was secured for the exhibition of the Navy League patriotic photo-play, "It is for England!" written and produced by Laurence Cowen, at the West End Cinema Theatre last week. There were twenty-one screenings of the film during the week, and over 20,000 persons paid for admission. Unfortunately, the run at this theatre could not be extended in consequence of advance arrangements.

Fox Films.

The Fox Film Co. announce that their production of "Under Two Flags," which should have been shown at their trade show to-day, has been unavoidably postponed. They will, however, screen another powerful play, entitled "Dare-Devil Kate," featuring Virginia Pearson.

The first of the series of Fox film comedies will be shown to the trade on Jan. 10. It is entitled "Chased Into Love." Exhibitors will be delighted with this series.

"THE RETURN OF EVE."

ADAM AND EVE, FROM A MODERN EDEN, GO INTO THE WHIRLPOOL OF SOCIETY, AND, DISILLUSIONED, RETURN TO THEIR GARDEN.

Production .....Essanay
Stars ..Edna Mayo and Eugene O'Brien
Type .....Picturesque Drama
Length .....Five Reels

The site of the Garden of Eden has been a long-disputed point, and in this unusually interesting film play, shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Monday last, the enterprising Essanay Company, if they do not claim to have discovered the historical home of our original parents, have found a new Eden, which is certainly a picturesque and altogether alluring spot. This pardon is the pied à terre of Adam and Eve, the orphan protégées of an eccentric millionaire, who believed that civilisation was the ruin of humanity. They were brought up there in utter simplicity by an old philosopher, and, to the age of nineteen years, led a guileless and natural life. Then the serpent appears, in the person of a young solicitor, who announces that the young and beautiful barbarians are the heirs to the millionaire's fortune, and the time has come for them to go into the great world. Eve tempts the reluctant Adam to accept the offer, and that young lady soon startles the society of her friends in the smart world to which she is introduced. She is speedily disillusioned, however, by the emptiness and hypocrisy of it all, and summoning her Adam back from Paris, where he had gone to study, they return to their garden. There, soothed by the natural surroundings, they became lovers again in a fuller and sincerer way.

The producer, Mr. Arthur Berthelet, had certainly made the most of his excellent subject, and has found a remarkably fine setting for his Eden. The photography is excellent, and some of the compositions delightfully beautiful. Edna Mayo plays the difficult part of Eve with a good deal of natural joyousness, although she is a little self-conscious in the opening scenes in the garden. She is well supported by Eugene O'Brien and a splendid company.

"NOT IN THE NEWS."

YOUNG GIRL, IMAGINING HERSELF A SARAH BERNHARDT, IS SOON BROUGHT TO EARTH, AND RETURNS TO DOMESTIC LIFE, TO WHICH SHE IS MORE FITTED.

Production .....Essanay
Type .....Comedy-Drama
Length .....Two Reels

An interesting Essanay film was shown on Thursday at the private theatre of the firm. It satirises the high histrionic aspirations of a young girl, who, spoiled and flattered by her parents and friends after a school performance, thinks she is already a Sarah Bernhardt. Her fond father provides the "needy" for her dramatic tuition, but it is not long before her illusions are shattered, and we finally see her, happier and more at home, in the kitchen, where she is more than willing to welcome back her old sweetheart, whom she had discarded on account of his materialistic leanings. The film realises a familiar phase of life, and is quite satisfactory.

[*See our Film Marking.*]

Pathé Notes.

The new traffic regulations that are coming in this month are giving exhibitors attacks of nerves. Messrs. Pathé Frères would like to assuage these nervous qualms, at any rate as far as they are concerned. In order to cope with possible difficulties they are ordering a large supply of extra copies of films, so that their immense and well-organised service will stand a minimum chance of allowing showmen, even in the most remote parts of the country, to have a "let down."

Always seeking fresh fields and pastures new to conquer, Pathé Frères are about to open a Colonial department in their London offices. This step will be found of immense advantage to exhibitors in the Colonies, for they will be able to get in direct touch with the London branch, and secure all the biggest plays and film attractions, together with all publicity matter appertaining to the films.

That film advertising is an immense asset in the "movie" world goes without saying, and Pathé Frères pride themselves on being "top notch" here. They base their high standard on the maxim "Put the exhibitor first, help him with something that will attract the public, and something that will help his pocket as well." A good film books on its own merits, and the exhibitor needs no prodding in this respect, for the best advertisement is the film itself. Pathé Frères are always prepared to supply the showman with genuinely good idea and the right material for assisting his films to get at the public, and draw audiences to his own particular show.

The big serial or series of problem plays "Who's Guilty?" will be released on Mar. 1. This serial has been eagerly looked for and will, we feel, certainly cause considerable interest among the cinema-going public. Tom Moore and Anna Nilsoon, as hero and heroine, are an ideal pair. Both are endowed with superlative histrionic talent, and both are favoured with good looks. They possess, too, that indefinable quality, personality. Talking of serials, it is beginning to get mooted abroad that Pathe's have a prodigious one coming along in the early months of the year. Its title is "The Shielding Shadow," and report has it that its thrilling interest and attractive features are quite startling in their engrossing character.

A Gold Rooster play in exquisite Pathécolor is a thing for showmen to conjure with. When added to this the delightful and popular Pearl White heads the list of artistes to play the role of heroine, in her own inimitable style, then we are indeed saying a good deal for "Annabel's Romance," but not all. For this beautifully coloured production in five reels can also boast of a charming, interesting, and dramatic old-world story that will delight the hearts of picture play patrons. Particulars of the trade show will be duly announced.

We venture to say that in regard to war pictures, no bigger distribution is made than by Messrs. Pathé Frères, who include a fine selection in their popular Animated Gazette, issued twice weekly. Every one attending a picture show where the gazette is included has thus a chance of viewing them.

Miss Pearl White recommends the movie treatment for neurasthenic patients. She says that one hour before the camera, trying to follow the script of an over-imaginative writer, will surely work a cure. Here is Miss Pearl White's elixir of youth. Two heaped spoonfuls of adventure, a large dash of peril, a goodly portion of mystery, and flavoured with romance.

The Mutt and Jeff cartoons will be released next month.

Pathé big drama releases for the new year include "Madam X," "The Beloved Vagabond," "A Woman's Fight," "The Light that Failed," "Sunshine and Shadows," "Annabell's Romance," and others.

To-day, at 3 o'clock, will be screened at their private theatre, the film adaption of Rudyard Kipling's great novel, "The Light that Failed," and a full report will appear in our next issue.

Phillips Film Company.

The Phillips Film Co. have recently acquired a new film which is likely to cause a sensation in the film trade. Further particulars will be announced later.

The Phillips Film Company's engrossing picture, "A Page from Life," which was released on Christmas Day, proved very popular at all the picture houses where it was shown. This drama is cleverly written, without the aid of sub-titles.

"The Love Liar," Phillips Film Company's exclusive, will be shown to the trade at the Assembly Rooms, New Briggate, on the 5th instant.

Mr. P. de Solla is the new representative for the Phillips Film Company in the Birmingham district.

The trade show of Phillips Film Company's great exclusive, "The Love Liar," will be given on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the City Picture House, Lime-street, Liverpool.

"Cinderella" and "Molly Make-Believe" have proved to be the two most popular Christmas photo-plays of the Famous Players Film Company. Both are fortunate in their star artiste. For the first Mary Pickford has the title-rôle, and in the second it is filled by Marguerite Clark. Everyone knows the story of "Cinderella," but "Molly Make-Believe," being a modern personage, is not so familiar, and it may therefore be well to explain that her make-believe takes the form of writing imaginary letters to imaginary or real personages.

What is Wanted.

January release of strong one-reel comics:—"Milk-O," Jan. 1; "Chasing 'em out in the Open," Jan. 4; "Luke's Late Lunchers," Jan. 8; "Issy and the Smart Set," Jan. 11; "Luke Joins the Navy," Jan. 18; and "An Awful Romance," Jan. 25.

In spite of dark nights and the tax, reports from all parts of the country show that business at the cinemas during the holidays has been excellent, "Full Houses" being the order of the day.

The General Film Renting Co.

We are pleased to be able to state that Mr. E. S. Williams, of the General Film Renting Co., has returned to his office after having been away with a severe attack of the "Flue." He informs us that he will, in the new year, be handling some colossal productions, and they will not all be "*Unattainable*."

The London Independent Co.

We have received from the London Independent Film Trading Co. a very acceptable notebook. It is quite one of the best issued by renting firms, as it is a programme book of pocket-book size.

"Ivan the Terrible."

The London Independent inform us that in deference to the wishes of the Russian Embassy, who consider the production of "Ivan the Terrible" inappropriate at the present time, it has been decided to withdraw the film from the market, and they are offering to exhibitors in its place their latest purchase, "Sophy of Kravonia."

Broadwest New Year Activities.

The Broadwest Films, Ltd., are starting the year with a great scoop, having secured the services for some time to come of three of the foremost cartoonists, viz., Ernest H. Mills, Anson Dyer, and Dudley Buxton. We have already seen the first they have to offer, and have no hesitation in describing it as the most interesting and wonderful of its kind. It is the work of Mr. Ernest Mills, who will be remembered for his clever cartoon, "What London Saw on Nov. 23." It depicts scenes and incidents in the life of Mr. Lloyd George. It is being handled by the firm on the open market principle, and will be released, London, Jan. 29. Provincial dates have not yet been fixed.

One must also remember that this young firm are also handling "Guns and Munitions," now being shown to crowded houses at the Philharmonic Hall. They are also very busy at present on the completion of "The Ware Case," which is being waited for with great interest. Considering this firm have only been in existence six months, and the strides they have made, we have no hesitation in saying that we feel certain that in the commencement of 1918 the "Broadwest" films will be as well known as any other brand on the market, and we wish them continued success.

The next two cartoons this firm will offer are "A Child's Dream of Peace," by Anson Dyer, and "Devil's Little Joke," by Dudley Buxton.

Pantomime Supper at Belfast.

Mr. S. J. Stonehouse (manager, New York Cinema, Belfast) was chairman at a pantomime supper held on Christmas night. Amongst those present were Miss Rosie Walters, Miss Connie Jay, Miss Kerrigan, Miss Powell, Miss R. Kay, Mrs. Lewis, from "Cinderella" pantomime; also Messrs. J. Davidson (host), Tom Harvey, Jas. Cromie, R. M. McDonnell, David Thom, &c. During the evening Miss Connie Jay sang several songs in first-class style; and others who assisted were Messrs. Tom Harvey and Jas. Cromie, &c. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and cheers for Mr. Stonehouse (who made an ideal chairman) concluded the proceedings.

Pictures at Leicester.

Mr. Lowndes-Salmon has the usual good programme here, which includes the William Fox Co.'s "East Lynne," "Little Eve Edgarton," and a well-varied selection of other films.

At the Grand Electric Palace Mr. Horace Springett has been showing some good programmes, and this week pride of place is allotted to Tom Gallon's "Tatterley" and the William Fox film, "The Battle of Hearts."

The Floral Hall always has a lengthy and well-selected programme, and Mr. Trueman Towers has a fine programme in "The Man Behind the Curtain," "The Grip of Gold," "The Informer," and "Daisy the Demonstrator," &c.

At the Cinema de Luxe the Leicester admirers of Miss Vesta Tilley have this week the pleasure of seeing her on the screen in "The Girl Who Loves a Soldier." There are also numerous other favourite pictures.

The King's Hall is screening a "Blue Bird," exclusive, "The Gay Lord Waring," amongst other pictures of merit.

Mr. G. A. S. D. Nicole, the new manager at the Imperial Playhouse, has commenced to show much extended programmes, and has also secured for the New Year some of the best exclusive pictures that are to be released. He is a gentleman thoroughly conversant with the business in every department. "Mr. Lyndon at Liberty" and the famous Dorsey Expeditionary Pictures are included in a most pleasing and attractive list of films.

Pictures at Bath.

The Picturedrome always has a programme that appeals successfully for public support, as instanced by the present fare, which includes "The Circus of Fire" and "A Love Riot" during the early part of the week, and "The Darkest Hour" for the latter three days.

At the Vaudeville one is sure to find the latest topical, scenic, and official war films.

The big-letter reels this week are "Tom Brown's Schooldays" and some "Pimple" and "Jerry" comedies.

The Electric is once again showing the "Battle of the Somme," a Charlie Chaplin scream, and "The Strange Story of Sylvia Grey," in which Helen Gardner is featured.

Oxford Pictures.

During the Christmas holidays the children are specially catered for at the Electra Palace, Queen-street. The exclusives include "The Cinderella Girl," featuring Ella Hall and Robert Leonard; and "Hulda from Holland," with Mary Pickford as the little Dutch girl from the land of the windmills. Another attractive film is "Helen's Babies."

"Slander," a five-part William Fox film, is showing at the George-street Cinematograph Theatre; a Keystone, "A Game Old Knight"; and "Pirates of the Air"; "The Red Circle," a new serial, commences on Thursday.

At the North Oxford Kinema and Jeune-street houses Charlie Chaplin is again in evidence in "Charlie Shanghaied"; "Forbes, the Fighting Man," being the main drama film.

"A Daughter of the Nile," with another episode of "Terence O'Rourke," form the leading features at the Palace and Castle-street.

COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS

LONDON.

Mothers of France, New Gallery Kinema, 11.0, Jan. 3.

The Light That Failed (Pathé), 103, Wardour-street, 3, Jan. 3.

Dare Devil Kate (Fox), Shaftesbury Pavilion, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., 11.30, Jan. 3.

Gloriana (New Bio), West-End Cinema, 11.30, Jan. 3.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11.30 a.m., Jan. 4.

A Prince in a Pawnshop (Vitagraph), West-End Cinema, 11.30, Jan. 5.

The Good Bad Man and The Little School Ma'am (Triangle), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11.0, Jan. 5.

Witchcraft (Walker), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11.0, Jan. 9.

Miss George Washington (Walker), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11.0, Jan. 16.

Molly Bawn West End Cinema, 11.30, Jan. 16.

BIRMINGHAM.

A Bunch of Keys and The Return of Eve (Essanay), Scala, 10.30, Jan. 3.

Ashes of Embers, &c. (Walker), Scala Theatre, 11, Jan. 5.

Honour Thy Name, The Two o'Clock Train, and Perils of the Park (Triangle), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 11.0 and 3.0, Jan. 5, 3.30 and 6.30, Jan. 7.

The Kiss and the Rainbow Princess (Walker), Scala Theatre, 11.0, Jan. 12.

The Lie, The Lyons Mail, and Just Like a Man (Ideal), 4 p.m., Jan. 14.

Molly Bawn, Picture House, New-street, 11, Feb. 6.

CARDIFF.

The Moral Fabric and Madcap Ambrose (Triangle), Castle Cinema, 11, Jan. 3.

The Lie (Ideal), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 5.

The Storm and The Quest of Life (Walker), Pavilion-street, Mary-street, 11, Jan. 5.

Going Straight and The Winning Punch (Triangle), Castle Cinema, 11.0, Jan 10.

Mail (Ideal), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 12.

Ashes of Embers, &c. (Walker), Pavilion, St. Mary's-street, 11.0, Jan. 12.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., Jan. 19.

Molly Bawn, Private Theatre, 17, Quay-street, 11 and 3, Jan. 26.

EDINBURGH.

Essanay Exclusive, Palace, 11.0, Jan. 3.

GLASGOW.

The Raiders and Willie's Wobbly Ways (Triangle), City Picture House, Union-street, Jan. 5.

The Reward of Patience and The Selfish Woman (Walker), Private Theatre of the Newcastle Film Supply, 12 Dixon-street, 11.0, Jan. 9.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), own office, all day, Jan. 12.

The Storm and The Quest of Life (Walker), Private Theatre of the Newcastle Film Supply, 12 Dixon-street, 11.0, Jan. 16.

Molly Bawn, Picture House, Sauchiehall-street, 11.30, Feb. 2.

LEEDS.

The Love Liar (Phillips), Assembly Rooms, 11, Jan. 5.

Going Straight and The Winning Punch (Triangle), The Picture House, Briggate, 11.0, Jan. 5.

The Storm and The Quest of Life (Greta), Assembly Rooms, 11, Jan. 9.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), Picture House, Briggate, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

A Bunch of Keys and The Return of Eve (Essanay), City Cinema, 10.30, Jan. 10.

Molly Bawn, Picture House, Briggate, 11.30, Jan. 17.

LIVERPOOL.

The Lie (Ideal), La Scala, Lime-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 3.

The Gates of Eden (Ruffell's), Palace de Luxe, 11.30, Jan. 4.

A Bunch of Keys and The Return of Eve (Essanay), City Picture House, 11, Jan. 8.

Mail (Ideal), La Scala, Lime-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 10.

Witchcraft (Walker), Super Cinema, Lime-street, 11.0, Jan. 12.

Honour Thy Name, The Two o'Clock Train, and Perils of the Park (Triangle), Palais de Luxe, Lime-street, 11.0, Jan. 12.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), La Scala, Lime-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 17.

The Kiss, and The Rainbow Princess (Walker), Picture House, Lime-street, 11, Jan. 22.

Molly Bawn, City Picture House, 11.0, Jan. 25.

MANCHESTER.

Little Miss Happiness (Fox), Private Theatre, 28, Deansgate-arcade, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., Jan. 4 and 5.

The Lie, Mail, and Just Like a Man (Ideal), Salford Cinema, Chapel-street, Salford, 2.30 p.m., Jan. 7 (Sunday).

The Return of Eve and A Bunch of Keys (Essanay), Grosvenor, 10.30, Jan. 9.

The Kiss and The Rainbow Princess (Walker), 26, Fennel-street, 11.0, Jan. 9.

Honour Thy Name, The Two o'Clock Train, and Perils of the Park (Triangle), Triangle House, St. Mary's-street, Deansgate, 11.0 and 3, Jan. 9, 3.0, Jan. 10.

Honour Thy Name, The Two o'Clock Train, and Perils of the Park (Triangle), Grosvenor Picture House, 11.0, Jan. 16.

Witchcraft, &c. (Walker), J. D. Walker Private Theatre, 26, Fennel-street, 11.0, Jan. 19.

Molly Bawn, Alexandra Picture House, Salford, 2.30, Jan. 26.

NEWCASTLE.

Little Miss Happiness (Fox), Private Theatre, 20, Westgate-road, 11 a.m., Jan. 3.

The Children in the House and The Waiters' Ball (Triangle), Star Buildings, Northumberland-street, 11.0, Jan. 4.

Mail (Ideal), Picture House, 11 a.m., Jan. 5.

A Bunch of Keys and The Return of Eve (Essanay), Queen's Hall, 10.30, Jan. 5.

The Reward of Patience, and The Honourable Friend (Walker), Private Theatre of the Newcastle Film Supply, Cross House, Westgate-road, 11, Jan. 5.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), Picture House, 11 a.m., Jan. 10.

The Last Act and His First False Step (Triangle), Star Buildings, Northumberland-street, 11.0, Jan. 11.

The Light that Failed (Pathé), Queen's Hall, 11, Jan. 12.

The Storm, &c. (Walker), Private Theatre of the Newcastle Film Supply, Cross House, Westgate-road, 11.0, Jan. 12.

Molly Bawn, Picture House, Grey Street, 11.30, Jan. 19.

NOTTINGHAM.

The Reward of Patience (Walker), Scala Theatre, Market-street, 11, Jan. 3.

The Children in the House and The Waiters' Ball (Triangle), Star-buildings, 24, Northumberland-street, 11.0, Jan. 4.

The Light that Failed (Pathé), Scala, 11, Jan. 9.

The Lie (Ideal), own office, all day, Jan. 9.

Mail (Ideal), Picture House, Long-row, 11 a.m., Jan. 16.

The Storm and The Quest of Life (Walker), Scala Theatre, Market-street, 11.0, Jan. 16.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), own office, all day, Jan. 23.

Ashes of Embers (Walker), Scala Theatre, Market-street, 11.0, Jan. 17.

Molly Bawn, Picture House, Long-row, 11.30, Jan. 31.

SHEFFIELD.

Mail (Ideal), Electra Palace, Fitzallen-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 9.

The Light that Failed (Pathé), Union-street Picture Palace, 11, Jan. 10.

Just Like a Man (Ideal), Electra Palace, Fitzallen-street, 11 a.m., Jan. 16.

Molly Bawn, by appointment with G. W. Knapton and Co., 30, High-street, Rotherham, at any hour on Feb. 7, Feb. 8, Feb. 9, and Feb. 10.

The death of Mr. Edward Cutler, K.C., a recognised authority on copyright law and a successful composer and organist, is announced. Mr. Cutler, who had attained the age of 85 years, received his call to the Bar in 1857, and took silk in 1884. He wrote many songs and instrumental compositions, and acted as Grand Organist of English Freemasons in 1892-3. With his wide knowledge of music he wrote a "Manual of Musical Copyright Law," and collaborated with Mr. Eustace Smith and Mr. F. E. Weatherley in publishing a "Treatise on Musical and Dramatic Copyright."

Telegrams and Cables: "Dafilsage, London." 'Phone: Regent 4985.

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MY RISE TO FAME.

By BILLY MERSON.

A DIVERTING ACCOUNT FROM HIS OWN PEN OF THE CAREER OF BILLY MERSON, THE FAMOUS COMEDIAN, WHO IS REPEATING ON THE SCREEN THE SUCCESSES HE HAS ACHIEVED ON THE VARIETY STAGE.

Listen, while I tell you a secret. It is a story of a certain period in my life when my age, perhaps, is a sufficient excuse to offer for the indiscretion I committed. I know most, or may be all of you, will forgive me an unfortunate blunder made in my youth—a blunder of which I was totally unaware until the other day, when an old Nottingham friend of the family stopped my brother in the street and enquired in tones suggesting that I had perpetrated one of the most unpardonable crimes:

"Well, how is that brother of yours, who went to the bad, getting on?"

Let me disperse any misgivings this question may arouse in your mind by telling you at once that the crime attributed to me was the simple one of deserting an honest and sure living for the "precarious" one provided by the stage.

Shall I ever forget those stirring times when all the old folks threw up their hands in dismay and declared that it could be no other than the devil himself who persuaded me to choose the music hall as a profession?

Mind you, there have been times—times which I look back upon with a smile nowadays, but which at the period of passing filled me with many regrets for the step I had taken. But now that those days of misfortune are gone, and fortune has smiled upon my assiduous efforts, I can assure you it affords me pleasure to recall the by no means distant past.

EARLY STAGE LEANINGS.

I was born in Nottingham, and, strangely enough, my vocal efforts attracted attention on the day I first saw light, for I seem to remember my mother telling me that the noise I made elicited enquiries from neighbours living at both ends of the street. But it was many years after that auspicious event that I really started to sing. I was possessed of what people call a "good voice," and this acquisition, combined with the enthusiasm inspired by frequent music hall visits and the "glimmer of the footlights," made me what is known as "stage struck."

My ambition in this direction, though, was not shared by those in authority, and when the time came I was sent off to work in one of the lace factories. Later on I achieved some distinction in the Post Office. Still, my ardour for the life I yearned for was not damped. After business hours, and during week-ends, I did my best to entertain people at concerts, getting five shillings here and half-a-crown there. Very small items indeed, but much welcome additions to the seventeen and fourpence I got as a salary. Yet I must confess that as an amateur concert singer I was a diabolical failure, and it was in the hope of getting on the ladder of fortune that I decided to become an acrobat. Those were happy days indeed. Along with six other boys I began to learn the tricks of an acrobat. How we came through rehearsals without broken necks seems almost a miracle, and yet we were spared to amuse people at fêtes and galas. My craving after proficiency in the acrobatic business I am afraid had a great deal to do with the way in which promotion at the Post Office failed to come my way, for in addition to amusing the other employees, I always seemed fated to meet the "boss" when I went down or up the stairs on my hands.

FIRST PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE.

With visions of wealth and a happy future, I joined a performer now known as "Saleski—The Golden Spider," and we advertised ourselves as acrobats. Our first professional performance I am not likely to forget. We played the old men of the sea in pantomime for thirty shillings per week each—a commendable increase in my Post Office salary, apparently, but a small amount indeed when you know the expenses incurred on the halls. Very early in my career I began to see visions of success. The pantomime had been running only four nights when the comedian who played the dame was taken ill. The manager was in a fix. I volunteered to take the part, but the hopes I had entertained were dashed to the ground when it was found there was no one to take my part. Fired with enthusiasm and ambition I offered to fill both rôles. The manager took me at my word, and my offer was accepted. Nobody in the audience knew, of course, but it was rather funny to me, and I often laugh when I think of how as the dame I had to show my affection for my partner, and then in the next scene as the old man of the sea my duty was to strangle him. I made a distinct success in my new part. So much so, that when the comedian returned from his illness the manager paid him to walk about, and in appreciation of the good work I was doing I received the magnificent additional remuneration of 2s. 6d. per week—a sum which barely covered my "make-up" expenses.

CIRCUS TOURING IN IRELAND.

You will not be surprised, therefore, to hear that during the following year we made great strides, and were given a return date for the pantomime at a salary of 35s. each. Even then I was not satisfied. How ambition does carry one away. Soon afterwards I found a circus which was to tour through Ireland. I do not quite know whether it was the salary of £2 weekly or the fascination of the circus itself which attracted me the more. What I do know is that the life of a touring circus, painted in picturesque words by a loquacious manager, is a thing devoutly to be wished. Unfortunately he left an account of the work severely alone. That side of the contract was a mere detail. I found that all that had to be done was to take the part of a clown, do an acrobatic speciality display, ride horses, play in sketches, and make myself generally useful. The remainder of the time was my own, except, of course, helping to pull down the marquee and help to put it up again at the next town, while en route I had to assist the driver in seeing that the horses did not go to sleep. Going from town to town was "some" travelling. Irish miles are proverbial. For instance, if an Irishman tells you that the place you want to go to is "just up the road," he means four or five miles. "A fair distance" invariably means fourteen or fifteen. As a rule, I had to sleep as we travelled; occasionally I had a roof above me. More often than not I was refused apartments, and at our approach the children would run and cry, "Mother, take the chickens in, the circus is coming."

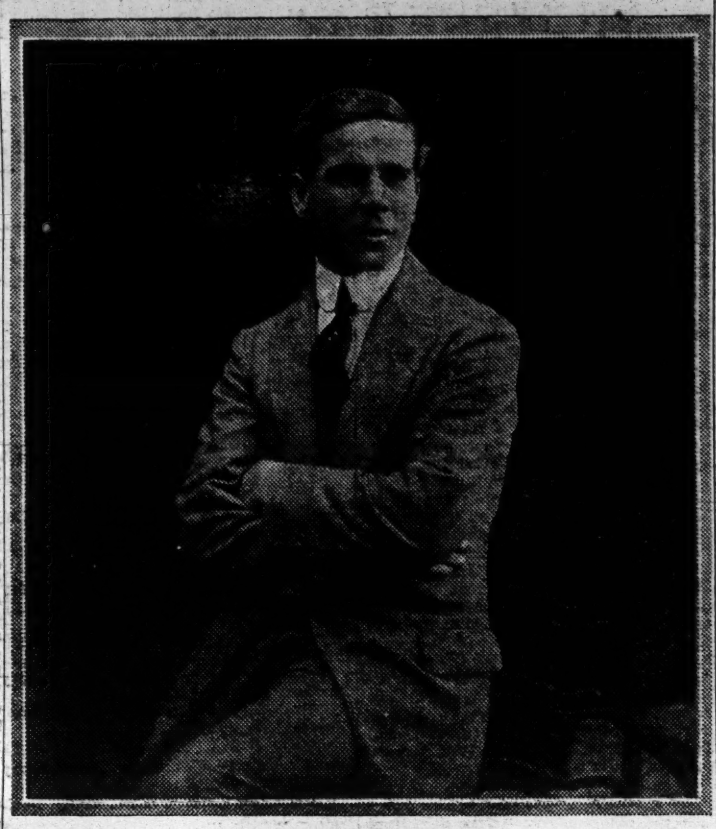
There was one particular occasion when I almost got apartments at a respectable-looking house. Everything had been fixed up, my luggage was in the bedroom, and just as I was leaving the lady of the house I happened to mention that I would go and see how matters stood at the circus before dining.

"What," said the old Irishwoman, "ye mean to say ye're employed at the circus?"

"That's right," I said, expecting her to ask for a couple of seats.

"Then, begorra, out ye go! If me old man found a circus chap here, he'd murther me." From which I inferred that circuses had visited the town previously.

This circus touring was not exactly the same as the manager had described. He must have had a dream the night before he saw me, and related to me his dream. At all events, I failed to appreciate the "fine" life, but at the same time I must say that what was lost in comfort was fully compensated by the experience gained, and for that reason alone I shall never regret the period spent with the circus.



MR. BILLY MERSON. [*Homeland.*

MUSIC HALL DEBUT.

After all, my ambition was to make a name on the halls. That was more easily said than done. For something like six years I struggled along on a salary that scarcely kept body and soul together. I visited most of the small halls in the provinces eking out a livelihood by writing songs for other artistes who were known as "stars." How I longed to be among them. The songs which I wrote for these people seemed to be received very well, and at length I plucked up courage to sing them myself. The venture proved to be the turning point in my career. In 1909 I was given a trial week at the Oxford, London. At last I had got my chance, for anyone who is acquainted with music halls knows that London is the goal of every artiste's ambition. I am afraid I cannot describe my feelings on that memorable Monday night. I seem to remember facing a huge audience. After I had finished I recollect going to my dressing-room, and then something which appeared more like a dream was enacted. Someone came in at the door. He said something, and between the gasps I made for breath the perspiration ran down my cheeks. My visitor was the manager, and he had come to ask me to sign a contract for three years. That was my real start, and from that time I have risen steadily.

STORY OF A SONG.

But there is yet another period as the one which I might describe as the one which lifted me abruptly to a high place. I was playing in pantomime at the time, and, as you are probably aware, producers of pantomimes always like to include in their productions the most popular song of the day. With this end in view a wire was sent to a well-known comedian asking permission to sing one of his songs. This permission was not granted.

"We must get a song from somewhere," was the manager's remark. So I stepped into the breach and promised to do what I could for him. He wanted something romantic and something good. Shortly afterwards I conceived the idea for a Spanish love song in duet form. It was novel, and romance was there, too. I set to work, and by the time I saw the manager in the afternoon I was able to show him the result of my labour—"The Spaniard that Blighted My Life," the title—and it was written in the most romantic of all towns—Warrington. The number was so big a success that I afterwards converted it from duet form to a single song, and produced it at the Tivoli, London. The audience like it.

Managers began to sit up and take notice of one Billy Merson. As a natural sequence the said Billy Merson began to sit up and take notice too, and naturally demanded a higher salary. What is more, he got it.

But listen! While I was at the Tivoli I approached a well-known publisher with the idea of publishing the song.

"Will you give me £6 for it?" I asked.

He looked at the song and then at me.

"Merson," he said, "I would not give you 6d."

The following day I went to see another publisher. He took the song, and "The Spaniard that Blighted My Life" created a record for the sale of a comic song.

The strangest thing of all is that I could not finish my turn with the song. It was never appreciated at the end of my turn, but when I sang it first, rounds of applause almost invariably followed. I say "almost invariably." You see the first time I sang the song in pantomime was at Glasgow. I do not think they liked it. At least, one of the stage hands thought not.

"Are you going to sing that Spanish song again?" he asked me on the second night.

"Yes," I replied, expecting to hear that some of his pals were anxious to hear it.

"Oh," came the sad retort, "then you'd better sing it behind a net."

Nasty, wasn't it? On the occasion of a return visit to the Clyde city I began to doubt the wisdom of the stage hand's remarks. This time it was at the Palace. I sang two songs, and at the close of each I scarcely got a hand. The curtain came down and I went back to the dressing-room, wondering if the people were composed chiefly of deaf people.

Presently a knock came to the door, and the stage manager appeared.

"Mr. Merson," he said "you will have to give us another song."

Well, I was too dumb them myself to speak. I went back to the stage, and, believe me, before I was allowed to leave, the audience demanded three more songs. I suppose that is one of the peculiarities of the profession.

A REGULAR HOLIDAY.

I have just room to add an account of a conversation I had the other day with an old friend.

"Hello, Billy," he said, "I see you've gone in for cinema pictures. Jolly fine, too," he added. I said, "Thanks. I'm glad you like them."

"Well, Billy," he said, with a smile, "you've got a grand job now, anyway. Twelve months' holiday in the year and pay all the time."

Just to show him the kind of holiday I was having I recited my programme for that week—one of the toughest I've known. At 7.30 a.m. each day I had to attend the studio to play for the "movies," and worked right on to within less than an hour of the time I was due at the Palladium. Here I gave thirty minutes' show. Then off to Woolwich. Appeared there at both houses, and then dashed back to the Palladium. In addition I had to play three matinées at the Palladium. Needless to say I have very little time to spare on the beat as a special constable.

THE ROMANCE OF DAVID LLOYD GEORGE.

EXECUTED BY ERNEST H. MILLS.

Length ..... 800ft.
Type ..... Cartoon
Release .....Jan. 23, London
Distributors .....Broadwest Films.

The cartoon depicting scenes and incidents in the life of the Prime Minister is one which we predict will have the largest sale of any cartoon yet shewn. In the first instance, we are shown Mr. Lloyd George seated by his fireside and reflecting on scenes in his childhood. We are also shown a photo of his uncle, with whom as a boy he lived. Following we see the embryo politician's first visit to the House of Commons to hear Mr. Gladstone, and his registering of a wish one day to occupy a seat in the House.

Mr. Lloyd George's journey across the Channel to France, and the searchlights and scenes on the sea are vividly screened, and next comes an excellent illustration of the coast where Lord Kitchener is resting. A scene depicting a munition factory, and as it will be when peace is proclaimed, are among the interesting pictures displayed.

[*See our Film Marking.*]

PIONEER EXCLUSIVES

A WONDERFUL RECEPTION WAS ACCORDED AT THE TRADE SHOW LAST WEEK OF

BOBBIE,

THE REVUE GIRL,

A Magnificent 5-Reel Bluebird.

FEATURING

LOUISE LOVELY, GRACE LEADER, and GILMORE HAMMOND.

SCOTTISH RIGHTS sold to Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Edinburgh.
LANCASHIRE RIGHTS sold to T. Royle, 95, Corporation Street, Manchester.
MIDLAND RIGHTS sold to Diamond Film Syndicate, Birmingham.
WELSH RIGHTS sold to Severalls' Exclusives, Cardiff.

THE CONSUMING FLAME.

4 REELS.

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A LEADING CINEMA PROPRIETOR.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. GEORGE F. SEXTON, SOLE PROPRIETOR OF THE WEST END CINEMA.

Visitors to the above-named cinema will notice a framed card stating that £3,700 has been given to various war charities through the kindness of the proprietor of the hall, Mr. G. Sexton. Concluding that a few words from Mr. Sexton regarding his past and future movements in the cause of charity, and of his career in the picture industry, would prove interesting, our representative sought him out, and was received with the courtesy one would expect from the controller of so important a theatre.

To an acknowledgment of New Year greetings, Mr. Sexton added: "And please convey to your general reader my hearty good wishes for 1917. To all wounded soldiers and sailors I wish a speedy recovery, and will you also assure them that they are always welcome, free of charge, whenever they care to visit my cinema?

IRISH OWNED.

"You may be aware," continued Mr. Sexton, "that I had hard work at the commencement of the war, when I had purchased the cinema, to convince the public that it was then the property of an Irishman, and to prove that, despite the rumours that were floating around, there was not a penny-piece German money. No doubt those rumours got around owing to the fact that in pre-war days the syndicate that owned the cinema was composed mostly of Germans. But the fact remains that I am the sole proprietor, and am Irish. It should be an eye-opener to the various people who are so apt to decry anything brought about by cinemas, &c., that in the various functions for charities I have organised during the past year or so I have been instrumental in handing over £3,700 to charities, and am trusting to double that sum this year." Mr. Sexton added that as a compliment to him the first issue of "Blighty," consisting of one hundred thousand copies, was dedicated to him by the committee, who assured him that its production was largely assisted and made possible by his generosity.

THE WEST END CLIENTELE.

"It would take up too much space in your valuable paper," continued Mr. Sexton, "to give names of all Royalties and notable people who have visited here, but amongst those recently here were Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir George Alexander, H.I.H. the Grand Duke Michael of Russia, the past and present Prime Ministers, the Spanish, Italian, and Russian Ambassadors, and many others. In fact, hardly a day goes by without our having the great pleasure of receiving one of our notabilities. I might also mention that our performance on Sundays are in aid of Queen Mary's Convalescent Auxiliary Hospitals for Sailors and Soldiers who have lost their limbs in the war.

PATRIOTIC PICTURES.

"As well as doing my bit in behalf of charity," said Mr. Sexton, "I may also tell you that I am only too willing to show any film of national interest and importance. For instance, I shall on Jan. 16 and throughout the week be screening the long-looked-for Tank film, which is 'The Battle of the Ancre and the Advance of the Tanks,' depicting the Tanks rolling serenely over No Man's Land and greatly shocking the Huns! And on the same programme I shall be screening the first fight of the Royal Naval Division on French soil. This will be the first time these films will be shown at any hall in England, and we are anticipating they will prove very attractive. We have just shown for one week 'It is for England,' the film produced by Mr. Laurence Cowen for the Navy League. I have no partiality for any particular brand of film, and try and give each of the renting houses a share of my bookings, but I do try and show to my audiences every English film placed upon the market."

While thanking "The Era" representative for the compliments offered him on the manner in which his hall was conducted, in regard to the programmes offered, the orchestra, and the staff, he very modestly refused to take the credit, but said that in that direction he was very ably assisted by his manager, Mr. Edward H. Lundy, to whom he entrusted a good deal of the work. It may be added that the West End Cinema is only a side-line with Mr. Sexton, who is connected with an important business in the city, where he devotes many hours a day. Amongst his confrères there he is described as a "good sort," and there are plenty to prophecy that he will one day be sitting in the place of Dick Whittington.

MR. G. F. SEXTON.

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Reference No. ... ... 6—10.

C. ... ... Comedy. | O. ... ... Open Market.
D. ... ... Drama. | E. ... ... Exclusive.
I. ... ... Interest. | Rel. ... ... Release Date.

The Opossum	O.I.	Highways	Half-reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
The Isle of Wight	O.I.	Highways	Half-reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
Beautiful Varese	O.I.	Highways	Half-reel	Rel. Feb. 22	6¼
The Romance of Lloyd George	O.I.	Broadwest	One Reel	Rel. Jan.	10
Trouble for Four	O.C.	Vitagraph	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 5	6¼
The Fasters	O.C.	Vitagraph	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 8	6¼
An Eventful Evening	O.C.	Selig	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 8	6¼
The Silent Stranger	O.D.	Big U.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
Sea Mates	O.D.	Big U.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	6¼
A Bandit's Wager	O.C.	Big U.	One Reel	Rel Feb. 22	7¼
The Plumber's Waterloo	O.C.	Victor	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
A Society Sherlock	O.C.	Victor	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	6
The Wedding Guest	O.D.	Bison	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
Tittle Tattle Alice	O.C.	L.K.O.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
The Moving Finger	O.D.	Rex	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6
Her Vanished Youth	O.D.	Rex	One Reel	Rel. Feb 22	6¼
Friends	O.D.	Mary Pickford	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
One Step Too Far	O.C.	Ham	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
Caught Napping	O.C.	Davison	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 12	6¼
The Girl Detective	O.D.	Selig	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
The Garden of Shadows	O.D.	Lemmael	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6
A Crooked Mix Up	O.C.	Joker	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
A Shadowed Shadow	O.C.	Joker	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 22	7
Jim Slocum, 46,393	O.D.	Imp.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
The Crimson Trail	O.D.	Imp.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	6¼
Plot and Counter Plot	O.D.	Imp.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 22	6¼
Fate	O.D.	Griffith	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
A Plunge from the Sky	O.D.	Hazard Series	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
The Fatal Chocolate	O.C.	Sennett	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
Taking His Medicine	O.C.	Mack Sennett	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 22	7
Love and a Liar	O.C.	Nestor	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
A Political Tramp	O.C.	Nestor	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	6
Swedey the Janitor	O.C.	Nestor	One Reel	Rel. Feb 22	7
Eleanor's Catch	O.D.	Rex	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6
The Eyes of Love	O.D.	Rex.	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	6¼
Jerry's Celebration	O.C.	Horsley	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	6¼
New Zealand's Wonderful Waters	O.I.	Davison	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 15	7¼
Highlights and Shadows	O.D.	Horsley	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	7¼
That Wonderful Wife	O.C.	Horsley	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 22	6¼
The Love Magnet	O.C.	Ham	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 19	7¼
A Mystery of the Rails	O.D.	Hazard Series	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 22	7¼
Stolen Plumage	O.C.	Ivy Close	One Reel	Rel. Feb. 26	7
The Battered Bridegroom	O.C.	Ivy Close	One Reel	Rel. March 5	6¼
Parmount Travel	E I.	Walkers	One Reel	Rel. not known	9
Charley Chaplin	E.C.	Walkers	Two Reels	Rel. not known	10
Not in the News	D.	Essanay	Two Reels	Rel. not known	7
The Return of Eve	O.D.	Essanay	Five Reels	Rel. not known	9¼
Honour Thy Name	D.	Triangle	Four Reels	Rel. not known	7¼
Shell 43	D.	Triangle	Five Reels	Rel. Mar. 22	9
Rainbow Princess	E.D.	Walker	Five Reels	Rel. not known	9¼
The Cobweb	E.D.	Hepworth	Five Reels	Rel. not known	9¼

ALL FILMS REVIEWED BY EXPERTS.

THE MARQUIS DE SERRA.

HIS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

Calling upon the Marquis De Serra, an "Era" representative found him surrounded by callers, and, despite the fact that he is leaving for France to-day, he, with his customary courtesy, was trying to see them all. He informed us that his visit to France was in connection with a very big surprise in Filmland, and on his return he would be giving details in connection with it. Replying to a query as to his future productions, he said that he had just viewed the film "Ora Pro Nobis," produced by the Windsor Film Co., and it was, in his opinion, the finest film yet produced in this country. When one takes into account the productions that have been handled by the Marquis, a rare treat may be expected after a statement such as this. He will also be offering "Aaron, the Jew," featuring those two incomparable comedians, Bob Leonard and Augustus Yorke (of "Potash and Perlmutter" fame). Among other important productions are a film featuring Lydia Borella, which has not yet received a title, another stupendous production, made by the Napoli Film Co. is entitled "90 Days," and another a great fight film full of exciting incidents, featuring Jimmy Wilde, which the Marquis De Serra anticipates will prove an even greater draw than "Kent, the Fighting Man."

Considering that the firm of Cines, of which the Marquis is the head, has been hard hit by shortage of staff, and taking into consideration his continual trips to France and Italy, it will be seen that his time is very well occupied. Knowing him as we do, however, we feel sure that he will handle the productions we have mentioned successfully, and in quite a short time be offering another bunch. Here's to his continued success!

"THE COBWEB."

WIFE'S LOVE FINALLY OVERCOMES HER REVULSION TOWARDS HER HUSBAND.

Production .....C. M. Hepworth
Type ..... Drama
Stars .....
Miss Alma Taylor
Mr. Henry Edwards
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ....Hepworth Manufg Co.

Founded on the play by Leon M. Lion and Naunton Davies, this film, which was produced to the trade at the West End Cinema yesterday, relates how Stephen Mallard, an unconventional Englishman, had married Dolorosa in Mexico. The latter's intemperate habits cause her to murder their child, and, fearing her husband's wrath, she fled and gave out that she was dead. Eleven years pass, and Stephen comes to England and marries Irma Brian. After four years Stephen's absolute love and trust in Irma won the affection she had not at first felt for him. Dolorosa then turns up in England, and threatens Stephen. She is found dead in the grounds, Stephen is arrested, but Irma's evidence frees him. Stephen ultimately tells Irma that he had been married to Dolorosa, and offers her freedom. Love and revulsion struggle in Irma's breast, but love triumphs.

Miss Alma Taylor gives a very convincing portraiture of the character of Irma Brian, and well brings out the various emotions of the woman as maiden and wife; Mr. Henry Edwards makes an interesting study in the part of Stephen Mallard, the man of big character; and the part of Dolorosa is very well acted by Miss Violet Hopson.

The picture is finely arranged and produced throughout, interest is never allowed to flag, and the strong dramatic conclusion is well wrought.

"WE ARE FRENCH."

NEW IDEAL PICTURE.

A picture of superb power has been produced on the story of a very popular French novel entitled "Nous Sommes Français" ("We Are French"), and will shortly be shown to the trade privately by the Ideal Film Co., who have acquired the production. Speaking of this story, Sir Gilbert Parker has said, "This is a story with a joyous yet wistful impertinence all its own. It is touching, elegant, and full of national appeal." The tale is that of two French soldiers, one of whom was the brother and the other the lover of a pretty French miss (played by the well-known actress, Ella Hall). In the chaos and ruin of war the girl vanished, and the two men spend many years in a fruitless search for her. The brother had performed a splendid act of heroism during the war, but it was not until he was an old and feeble man that he becomes nominated for the Legion of Honour. Being a soldier, he refuses to ride from his little country village to Paris to receive the honour, but walks, or rather totters, in company with his lifelong friend. His strength fails him on the way, and he dies. His comrade thereupon continues the journey himself, poses as the dead hero, receives the decoration from the hands of the President, and, returning to where he had left his dead comrade, fastens the decoration upon him. It is a noble and moving climax to a story full alternately of human, appealing scenes, and rousing and spirited situations.

The new picture is among the finest that the cinema has yet seen, upon the always moving theme of the mutual fidelity of men—the tender old theme of David and Jonathan. In its tenderer passages the picture is strongly reminiscent of another great Ideal masterpiece, "My Old Dutch," but it is distinguished from it by its many stirring passages. A private show of the picture will be given at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Thursday, Jan. 11, at 11.30 a.m.

Keeping the Children Good.

The Prefect of Nancy, who has made the housing of refugees his special hobby, is happily not a member of the "Down with the cinema" campaign. He is convinced that one moving picture show saves him the expense of employing at least two policemen to keep the children good. And to keep them good they must have amusement.

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— and —

DISRAELI. By Louis N. Parker.

Featuring DENNIS EADIE.

London Independent Film Trading Co., Ltd., 4, Denman Street, W.

"THE RAINBOW PRINCESS."

THE WAIF OF THE CIRCUS IS MADE THE DUPE OF THE CIRCUS OWNER'S DEEP-LAID SCHEMES, BUT, BY THE OVERTHROW OF THE LATTER, FINALLY GAINS LOVE AND HAPPINESS.

Production ..... Famous Players
Star ..... Miss Ann Pennington
Type ..... Romance

This story of the life of a circus waif, screened at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Tuesday, is of enthralling interest. Hope, "The Rainbow Princess," a waif who has been picked up by the owner of a circus, is made to do most of the dangerous turns of the show. In a balloon ascent in a storm she falls with her parachute into the grounds of a wealthy old judge, and is carried into the house. From the resemblance to his own daughter, who had run away many years before, the judge believes Hope to be his granddaughter. The circus owner, in hopes of a reward, states that this is really the case. Afterwards he uses the girl as a shield for his designs to rob the judge. The plot is discovered, and the girl's innocence established.

[Famous Players.

The Lonesome Heart. Scene from "The Rainbow Princess."

Meanwhile the judge discovers that the girl is not his grandchild, and casts her off; but she is brought back by the real heir to the estate, a young artist, who has fallen in love with her, and all ends happily.

Ann Pennington, as the circus waif, acts very convincingly, and is particularly successful in the dance as a "Rainbow Princess," where she is given good opportunity of displaying her talent as a dancer. Grant Stewart as the judge and Charles Sutton as the circus owner are excellently played, and the cast throughout is good.

"THE HEART OF VIRGINIA KEEPE."

GIRL CLEARS HER FATHER'S CHARACTER AND THEREBY WINS A HUSBAND.

Production ..... Essanay
Star ..... Miss Margaret Clayton
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Four reels

Shown at the Essanay Private Theatre yesterday this picture relates how Virginia Keepe, the daughter of a rich banker, sets out to obtain evidence to clear her father, who is accused of a murder committed twenty-five years previously. Her work brings her in touch with a reporter, who is a millionaire's son, and a strong attachment develops between the two. Virginia proves her father's innocence, and all ends happily.

Miss Margaret Clayton is well suited to the part of Virginia, and the other characters are ably acted. The dramatic element is relieved by light touches of comedy.

Dare Devil Kate. [Fox.

The circus setting, with its unusual freaks and comicalities, renders this photo-play a most unusual one, quite outside the ordinary, and it impels interest from beginning to end.

"THE PAWN SHOP."

"CHARLIE" IN A PAWN SHOP.

Production ..... Mutual Chaplin
Star ..... Charlie Chaplin
Type ..... Comedy

Those who were present at the trade show at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Tuesday had the joy of seeing the inimitable Charlie in a new and wonderfully humorous film. Charlie's efforts as the pawnbroker's assistant are quite as funny as anything of his we have seen. His interviews over the counter with all sorts and conditions of men give him an amazing field for his talents, especially his wonderful facial contortions. His testing of an alarm-clock, by means of a stethoscope, tin-opener, oil can, and various other implements, is achingly funny, and the house roared its approval. Charlie invests every minute of the pawnshop day with laughter, from the moment when he cleans the three balls to the exciting finish, when he unmasks the plot of a diamond crook. There are some wonderful fights, in the well-known Chaplin manner; one or two new tricks, the use of his watch being especially funny; and some instances of clever, sympathetic acting, in which Charlie occasionally does genuinely fine work. The film is another triumph for this delightful comedian, and will be enthusiastically welcomed by cinema-goers.

"THE BEACH-COMBERS."

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER'S LAUGHABLE ADVENTURES AT THE SEASIDE.

Production ..... Essanay
Type ..... Farce-comedy
Star ..... Mr. Harry Dunkinson
Length ..... Two reels

Shown on the same occasion as the foregoing, this film depicts Andy Laffin, a travelling salesman arriving at Resthaven, a seaside resort. By his skill on the mandoline he finds favour with Sylvia, the daughter of the owner of the place, but no orders arriving he gets the "sack." Engaged in the capacity of life-saver, Andy is soon exposed as a fraud. His firm take him back again, and Andy decides that selling ties is more profitable than attempting to save lives.

The picture is full of movement and capital fun throughout. Mr. Harry Dunkinson, in the character of Andy, proves himself an agile comedian, with a strong sense of humour. The bathing scenes and the scenes on the beach are well arranged, and the picture should prove attractive to managers seeking a humorous interlude.

LIVERPOOL'S BIG CIRCUS.

For the fourth year in succession a big circus has opened at the Olympia, Liverpool, and, judging from the initial performance on Boxing Day, it would seem that the successes of previous ventures in this line will be repeated. The programme is entirely good, and includes the Grenadier Guards' band, the Decars with their clever performing geese; Mlle. Mona, lady rider; Gardener's remarkable maniac bulldogs; Eddie and Cornel, splendid comedians; the Sylfide Sisters, "queens of the air," who go through an astonishing and graceful performance; the Royal Assam elephants and horses; Eddie and a Zeppelin; Gudzow, Caucasian rider; Grock and his Partner, an exceedingly funny pair; the educated "Bonita" pony, guided by Bob Anderson; Frank Van Hoveen, the American mad musician, who made his immense audience shout with laughter; Pimpo and Tiney, with elephant; and the Shannon Family, daring riders. Jack Smiles is a first-class clown. On this occasion Mr. George Harrington acts as ringmaster.

"JACK AND JILL" AT THE MIDDLESEX.

Father Christmas ..Mr. Henry Wallis
The Christmas Fairy ..Miss Nina May
Mr. Kindheart .....Mr. A. Leybourne
Robert .....Mr. George Fisher
Little Miss Nobody..Little Elsie Prince
Jack ..... Miss Mabel Reeve
Jill ..... Miss Hester Reeve
Tommy Tucker ..... } Zoe and Zona
Bo-Peep ..... }
Boy Blue ..... Miss Peggie Wood
Mary Quite Contrary
Miss Helma Ritchie
Old King Cole .....Mr. Alf Maynall
Mother Hubbard ..Mr. Will Beanland
Simple Simon .....Mr. Dan Whitley

The patrons of the New Middlesex found the change in the programme from revue to Christmas pantomime quite a welcome one. The ancient nursery rhyme of "Jack and Jill" has reference to a couple who had an unfortunate experience in connection with a pail of water, and if we do not actually witness their adventure we do see the hill where it happened. Moreover, Mr. Herbert Wellesley, the author of the book and lyrics, renews our acquaintance with such familiar characters as that "merry old soul," Old King Cole, Mother Hubbard, Simple Simon, Tommy Tucker, Little Bo-Peep, and others. Jack is the hero of the story, which appears to be on original lines, and is eventually found to be the legal possessor of the throne occupied by King Cole, though his abdication does not apparently have any depressing effect upon that merry monarch.

The opening scene represents the exterior of a toy-shop in the double window of which are life-size figures of Father Christmas and the Christmas Fairy. They attract the attention of Little Miss Nobody, a waif of the streets, who, meeting Mr. Kindheart, is presented by him with a pretty doll. Then Father Christmas and the Fairy take compassion on the poor little wanderer, and by the exercise of their magic powers she is transported to Fairyland, where she meets Jack and Jill and the other characters already mentioned.

Evident care has been taken in the selection of the company, so that an excellent representation has been secured. First and foremost, Miss Mabel Reeve was quite an ideal Jack, speaking her lines with point, and singing well. She gave an admirable rendering of "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty." Her sister, Miss Hester Reeve, was equally good as Jill, and the two quickly won their way into popular favour, their duet, "Some Night, Some Waltz, Some Girl," being specially well rendered. Another pleasing selection was "I Was Going Back Home Until I Met You." The couple known as Zoe and Zona also scored as Tommy Tucker and Bo-Peep, who is twitted for having "lost her sheep." Little Elsie Prince played with charm and grace the part of Little Miss Nobody, and she was remarkably successful in her rendering of "Sergt. Daddy, V.C." and "The Land of Children's Dreams." Mr. Dan Whitley's Simple Simon was an example of the best kind of humour we associate with pantomime, being throughout an object of continual laughter to young and old alike. He made a hit with his ditty, "Mother," and closely associated with him in the fun-making was Mr. Alf Maynall, whose Old King Cole proved in his hands to be an extremely droll personage, who, if not particularly merry himself, was the cause of much merriment in the course of the performance. There is a scene in which the King, having to vacate his palace, is compelled to remove his own furniture, with the assistance of Simple Simon, and very funny indeed is this comic interlude rendered by the two comedians. Mr. Will Beanland was an exceptionally big and robust Mother Hubbard, whose appearance in a crinoline was the signal for shouts of laughter. He did well with his ditty, "In the Ballroom by the Sea," and deserves commendation for an unconventional pantomime dame. Miss Nina May was a pleasing Christmas Fairy, and Mr. George Fisher was alert and smart as a young policeman; useful service being also rendered by Henry Wallis as Father Christmas, Arthur Leybourne as Mr. Kindheart, Miss Peggie Wood as Boy Blue, and Miss Helma Ritchie as Mary Quite Contrary. The special scenery was from the brushes of Messrs. G. E. W. McKie, W. T Hemsley, and Stafford Hall; and the chorus and orchestra under the direction of Mr. Fred Saker. Mr. Fred Allwood was the musical director.

"LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER" AT CAMBRIDGE.

Mr. Harry McKelvie presents at the New Theatre, Cambridge, his interesting and amusing pantomime, "Little Tommy Tucker," written by Rich Walden. A better-mounted pantomime has never been shown here, the scenery designed and painted by Mr. J. C. Bontor is very attractive, the music, specially composed by Mr. Robt. McLeod, is bright, and the well-dressed chorus give the crowning effect. The piece opens with an effective scene, "The Village," followed by nine scenes full of laughter and jollity, catchy and stunning patriotic melodies and excellent dancing, ending with the grand scene, "The Palace Garden." All the artistes are individually good, especially Miss Dora Sefton as Tommy Tucker, who scores a great success with "It's a long, long way to home in Kentucky." Polly Primrose is ably embodied by Miss Molly McCarthy, her rendering of the song "Some night, some waltz" being excellent. Mr. Alex. Keith as Dr. Swanker is humorous and droll. Messrs. Geo. and Jock Preston are funny, especially in the duet, "You don't know." Miss Tina Bromlo is a vivacious Dame Bakewell. Others in the cast are Miss Ethel Brookland and Miss Bella Brookland, who dance and sing well, Miss Kitty O'Connor as the Fairy, Mr. George Sutherland as the Baron, Mr. Reg. Bromlo as John Willie, Miss Irma Geordison as Lizzie Lindsay, and Miss Clara Coverdale's La Belle Octette. Mr. Alec Keith is stage manager and Mr. Geoffrey Sutherland general manager. Mr. Jas. Matthews, the conductor, keeps band and chorus well in hand.

Jack Straw, who some time ago was specially retained by Mr. Oswald Stoll to understudy Mr. George Robey in the "Bing Boys," at the Alhambra, will continue to do so until the end of the run.

MELODYLAND.

B. Feldman and Co.

The first reports of London and provincial pantomimes show conclusively that Feldman songs are once more in the ascendant, and the point is not lost on the few managers and principals who set out to catch the public ear with repertoires which lacked the winning Arthur-street numbers. Already, within a few days of the commencement, Feldman numbers are being hastily sandwiched in to make good some shows which simply could not be successful without them. Moral: follow the Arthur-street lead, and win!

This is Miss Josie Delaine, principal boy in Mr. Rich Waldon's excellent "Tommy Trotter" pantomime at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. Miss Delaine has made no mistake in the selection of her vocal numbers, which fit like the proverbial glove.

Young and old Glasgow is consequently having a delightful time listening to Miss Delaine, who is delivering the musical goods, "Down home in Tennessee" and "Take me back to dear old Blighty," with all that charm for which she is famed.

Another popular figure in Mr. Waldon's pantomime is Miss Sonia Seal, whose photograph is here reproduced. As principal girl this accomplished artiste makes a success-

ful appeal, and in her song, "I want to be somebody's baby," she is simply irresistible. Already all Glasgow is chorusing the Princess's vocal hits.

"You've got to do it," sung by Miss Nan C. Hearne, and "It's a long way to my home in Kentucky," sung by Miss Bessie Benson, are two outstanding hits in the "Sinbad" company at Collins's. "Yaaka Hula" is another number excellently featured in the same production.

There is no more taking turn in vaudeville just now than Miss Hilda Glyder, who is this week appearing at Poplar and Woolwich Hippodromes, and never has this popular artiste had more decided song successes than her present Feldman repertoire, headed by the ubiquitous "Take me back to dear old Blighty."

At Tottenham this week Al Brown and Empsie Bowman, appearing in Herbert Crumps' "Cinderella," are scoring heavily with well-rendered versions of "Daddy" and "Yaaka Hula, Hickey Dula."

Miss Beatrice Allen has secured a hit in "Yaaka Hula," for which she earned and received hearty encores at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Miss Allen says:—"It is a first-rate song, and one of the few that I have real pleasure in singing."

The Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, has a wealth of Feldman songs. Here are the numbers and their successful singers:—"It's a long, long way to my home in Kentucky" and "We don't want a lot of flags a-flying," Miss Dorothy Craske; "You've got to do it" (a duet), by Miss Craske and Marriot Edgar; "I want to be somebody's baby," by Miss Major; "Yaaka Hula, Hickey Dula" and "Take me back to dear old Blighty," by Miss Lillie Southar; "I've got a little doll for you," by the Babes; "My heart is calling you," by Miss Nancie Hanton; and "Are you from Dixie?" "Amazon Brigade," and "We're all Scotch," by the Tiller Troupe.

Jack Vincent and Dolly Hulley continue to score consistently with "Mother's Rosary," which they produce splendidly.

Star Music Co.

Ouida Macdermott, who has already established herself as a great favourite with Belfast pantomime patrons for her delightful impersonation of Prince Florizel in "Cinderella" at the Grand Opera House, is well supplied with musical numbers, and on production night made an instantaneous hit with "Some Night, Some Waltz, Some Girl" and "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty," the chorus craze of the season. In the same production Reg Wentworth, the popular light comedian, has made a decided success with "I've Tried to be Good, but the Girls Won't Let Me."

That a prophet has no honour in his own country has certainly proved false so far as Miss Dorothy Ward's appearance in pantomime in Birmingham—her home town—is concerned. Already a great favourite here, as elsewhere, her appearance as Boy Blue in the Royal pantomime has proved something like the crowning triumph in a career in which one brilliant success has been quickly followed by another. Her sympathetic rendition of "Some Night, Some Waltz, Some Girl" gives an additional charm to a ballad that appeals alike to popular taste and to lovers of really high-class music.

At the Princes Theatre, Bradford, where the pantomime, "Dick Whittington," has proved a brilliant success, Daisy West-Collins, the principal girl, has scored in no uncertain manner with the ballad of the year, "Some Night, Some Waltz, Some Girl." "If I Could Only Say in French what I'm Thinking in English," sung as a duet by Anita Louis and Dorothy, and the comedy scream, "The Tanks that Broke the Ranks out in Picardy," Bob Selvidge's outstanding song number, are among other Star publications that have proved sensationally successful.

The two inevitable numbers, "The Tanks that Broke the Ranks out in Picardy" and "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty," are the big song hits in John Hart's "Cinderella" pantomime at the Princes, Bristol. Louie Beckman, who has proved a princely principal boy, sings the "Blighty" song, and J. F. McArdle, the Baron, features the "Tanks."

Victoria Carmen has placed herself among London's favourite principal boys, as a result of her highly finished appearance as Jack, the principal boy in the "Mother Goose" pantomime at the Lyceum. So far as singing numbers are concerned, she is scoring principally with "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty," the comedy chorus song that is being featured in practically every pantomime in the country; and the charming ballad, "Some Night, Some Waltz, Some Girl." Fred Hutchings, the Dame, does splendidly with "I've Had a Glass of Ginger Wine," also a Star publication.

Sheard and Co.

"Tommy Tucker took the tin of tasty tinned tomatoes," the comedy song of the year, is being featured by most comedians and dames in this year pantomime productions, amongst whom may be mentioned Paddy Dupres as the Baron in "Babes" at the Strand Theatre, who scores enormously with this number; Harry Cook as Billy Buttons at Willesden, who writes, "another big success"; Leo Bliss as Idle Jack at Croydon; Pip Powell as Dame at Queen's, Manchester; and scores of others. There is no doubt this song will be a big winner, and comedians who have not yet applied for a professional copy should do so at once, free for pantomime only.

"It's courting time," another number of a different type, is also a big favourite. Jimmy Hooper, playing the title-role of "Mother Goose" at Hippo., Lewisham, is making a decided hit with this song. Freddy Foss also scores at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, and Murray King, in conjunction with George Grocie, keeps the audience in good humour with their clever rendering of this song (which is entirely free).

Miss Rosie Reys, with her golden voice, is featuring W. H. Petrie's grand song, "On the roll of the open sea," at all her engagements, which comprise Moss and L.T.V. tour. Miss Reys says, in her opinion, this song will become even more popular than Petrie's "Asleep in the deep," with which she scores heavily.

"ALADDIN" AT NEW BRIGHTON.

Bright, tuneful, and funny is the pantomime at the popular Winter Gardens, New Brighton, and two immense houses assembled on Boxing Day to witness the first two shows. A great point scored by the management was the entire absence of vulgarity in any shape or form, and there is nothing in the pantomime likely to offend the most fastidious. Mr. J. Bannister Howard, who is responsible for "Aladdin," has got together a hard-working company, and Mr. Beaumont, the producer, secured a smart first performance. The scenery is appropriate and the costumes good. Mr. F. Bowyer is the author of the book, which follows on well-known lines, and the whole story is told in telling and convincing manner, so that the youngest child can understand and appreciate. The scenes which call for special mention are Market Day in Pekin; Interior of Magic Cave, made still more entertaining and beautiful by the wonderful fairy fountains and lighting arranged and carried out by Mr. Bleirot, a truly marvellous scene altogether. The Desert of Despair is excellently painted; and for effect the last scene, the Throne Room, is very good.

Of the company the chief successes are made by a clever little child singer and dancer, styled Petite Yiska; by Mr. Alfred Carrie, a funny little comedian, who works hard and quickly, which is exactly what pantomime requires; by Mr. Fred Spencer, a really excellent Widow Twankey, with a good presence and good voice; and by Mr. Leonard Edwards, who causes much amusement as Abanazar.

Other male members of the cast who do admirable work are Messrs. Denby and Dent, Mr. A. Wright, and Mr. Weston Manning; also an excellent vocalist in the person of Mr. Tom Webb, who undertakes the Emperor. The ladies are led by Miss Stella Pearl, a bright Aladdin, and Miss Clarisse Heney, a refined Princess. Loud applause is gained by Miss G. Dickeson for her fine vocalism, which is highly appreciated, and by the Misses Langton and Lupino, for their capital dancing. The chorus are all in the picture, and do their best in every scene in which they appear; and Mr. Arthur Roby is to be congratulated upon his music and upon his band, which was a feature of the performance. The pantomime plays for nine more shows this week, and then tours.

THE MODEL HOUSE FOR
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"JACK AND JILL" AT PENGE.

Jack Horner .....Miss Meg Hamilton
Princess Beauty ..Miss Dorothy Brett
Dick Diccory and Dolly Dimple
May and June
Lord Alg, Sir Rupert, and Mary Mary
Sinclair's Three Bluebells
Baby Bunting ...Miss Winnie Dudley
King Graball .....Mr. Dan Brooks
Snip and Snaff
Messrs. Harrigan and Holt
Dame Horner .....Mr. Jack Cromo
Sunshine .....Miss Babs Trevor
Spite .....Miss Dorothy Ellis
Spirit of the Flowers
Little Edna Barker

Produced at Chatham last week, Messrs. Cromo and Hamilton's excellent pantomime is being well received at this cosy hall. Nor is this to be wondered at, for it is replete with good, clean, honest fun of the first order. There is not much plot in the two lines that tell us most of what we know about Jack and Jill, but with fairy aid and evil spirit against them, those two have a fairly exciting two hours' adventures. The comedians, of course, are mainly responsible for this; they see that Jill doesn't come tumbling down until Mr. and Mrs. and Baby audience is holding its sides with laughter.

Mr. Jack Cromo easily holds pride of place as chief comedian, playing Dame Horner with the airs and graces of a duchess. For Mr. Cromo's "dame" is not one of your low-down, red-nosed comedy characters, but a "lady," one feels, of superior birth, who dresses ultra-fashionably. Mr. Cromo has proved that a dame can be funny without being a little bit vulgar. Certainly one of the best dames we have seen is his. His partner on the vaudeville stage, Miss Meg Hamilton, is principal boy, Jack, and a sprightly "Jack" she made. She sang in rollicking style "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty," and also joined in the duet, "Girls, Girls, Girls," with Mr. Cromo, in which the chorus were artistically dressed to represent the various phases of fashion. Miss Dorothy Brett was a pretty little Jill, and soon sang and danced herself into the favour of the audience. "I'm in Love" was her best number. "A pair of pretty rustics" is the programme's description of May and June, and it is quite correct as regards their prettiness. They sang and danced their "Baby" number in fine style. "Our Kid" was played by Miss Winnie Dudley in truly comic vein.

Mr. Dan Brooks was a very good "King," though he seemed more joyful than most kings; but, of course, this is all for the best in pantomime. He had a duet with Mr. Cromo, "We've Got to Put Up With It," which went enormously. Harrigan and Holt as a couple of comic policemen were also well to the fore in the fun-making. Their speciality was loudly applauded. Sinclair's Three Bluebells as Lord Alg., Sir Rupert and Mary. Mary were a fine trio, whose dancing is a great feature; and Little Edna Barker as solo dancer was quite successful in a couple of terpsichorean efforts. Immortals were Miss Babs Trevor, who as the good fairy sang well "A Rose, a Kiss, a Ring," and Miss Dorothy Ellis, who made a fine figure of the Evil Sprite.

The scenery, dresses, and music were alike artistic and excellent, and reflect great credit on those responsible, whilst an excellent chorus deserve praise for their work throughout.

An interesting book in theatrical advertising which we hope to review in an early issue has just been published by P. C. Burton and Co.

The Agricultural Hall was crowded on Saturday evening last, and at each performance of Sir Robert Fossett's famous circus not a seat remained unoccupied. In addition to the clever artistes featured on the programme, an extra turn was supplied by Mr. Jas. Powell, who demonstrated his skill as a horseman in an agile jockey act.

C. A. STEPHENSON,
A. M. NORRIS,
AND
MISS VIVIEN CARTER
PRESENT
Cinderella
MISS VIVIEN CARTER
as "Cinderella."
C. A. STEPHENSON
as "Capers."
FIRST CLASS PRINCIPALS
AND
COMPANY OF FORTY.
NINE GORGEOUS SCENES.
GREAT SUCCESS LAST WEEK, HIPPODROME, RICHMOND.
This week: HIPPODROME, GOLDER'S GREEN, LONDON, W

GOODFELLOW & GREGSON

GEORGE and JENNIE

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON TO ALL.

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PRINCIPAL COMEDIAN (SAMMY) and SPECIAL LADY POLICEMAN (SERGEANT MARY JANE)

THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT. PALLADIUM. LONDON W.

MATINEES ONLY.

N.B.—All the material used by us in the Palladium Pantomime has been written by **BERT LEE** and licensed by the Lord Chamberlain.

Business Manager - - - - ERNEST EDELSTEN.

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Principal Girl
Palladium Pantomime.

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ELIZABETH HYDE

FAIRY QUEEN

"The House that Jack Built."

PALLADIUM, LONDON, W.

(MATINEES ONLY.)

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"The Confidential Comedian."

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"Dame," Palladium Pantomime (Matinees only).

THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT.

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THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT,
PALLADIUM, W. MATINEES ONLY.

NANCIE VIVIEN

"MADGE," SECOND GIRL,
THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT,
PALLADIUM, W. MATINEES ONLY.

THE BROTHERS EGBERT

THE BROKER'S MEN,

"CINDERELLA,"

LONDON OPERA HOUSE

EDITH DRAYSON,

Principal Girl, "Cinderella,"

[*Photo by J. Bacon and Sons.*
EDITH DRAYSON.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE.

ELLA RETFORD

Prince Fortune

"Cinderella"

LONDON OPERA HOUSE

ELLA
RETFORD

Prince Fortune

"Cinderella"

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HAL BERT

as "Baron De Bounce,"

LONDON OPERA HOUSE.

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Best Wishes to All.

Bus. Representative:—
FRED. & HORACE REEVES.

TOM FOY

and his

Donkey.

"CINDERELLA,"
London Opera House.

ALTERED TRAIN SERVICES.

The revision of the time tables on all railways is not yet complete. On the Great Eastern Railway the present service of trains will operate up to and including the 14th instant. After that date the service will be curtailed.

The London Brighton and South Coast Railway have made their alterations, and a leaflet, with the train service to the South Coast is now obtainable at the stations on the line.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN.

The following particulars of trains available for conveyance of traffic from Euston, which began on Jan. 1, will prove useful :—

Old Time.	Revised Time.	Principal Places Served.
a.m.	a.m.	
3. 0	2.45	Northampton, Crewe, Birmingham, Coventry, Liverpool, Preston.
5. 0	4.55	Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Birmingham, Northampton, Crewe.
7. 0	6.50	Liverpool, Carlisle, Crewe.
8.30	8.30	Holyhead and Ireland, via Kingstown.
8.35	8.35	Will run to Rugby only (see 9.45).
9.15	9.20	Wolverhampton, via Northampton.
10.0	9.30	Perth, Liverpool.
10.10	9.45	Northampton, Rugby, Nuneaton, Stafford, Crewe, Lancaster, Carlisle.
11.40 / 12. 8	11.50	Liverpool, Birmingham.
p.m.	p.m.	
12.15	12. 5	Manchester, Preston, Northampton, Crewe.
2. 0	1.15	Glasgow, Inverness, Whitehaven.
2.25	1.50	Birmingham and Coventry.
2.35	2.20	Manchester, Liverpool.
3.55	3.55	Liverpool, Stafford, etc., as hitherto.
4.35	4.35	Wolverhampton.
5.30	5. 0	Manchester, Holyhead.
5.20	5.20	Fleetwood and Ireland, via Belfast.
5.55	5.30	Liverpool, Manchester.
5.50	6.55	Wolverhampton and Birmingham.
7.45	7.15	(SE) Holyhead and Ireland, via Dublin and Greenore.
8. 0	7.30	(SE) Perth, Inverness, Stranraer, Glasgow.
8.45	8.45	Holyhead and Ireland (mail route).
8.50	8.50	Perth, Glasgow, Gourock.
9. 0	9. 0	Holyhead, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, Glasgow, Stafford.
10. 0	9.25	Holyhead, Carlisle, Windermere, Whitehaven, Liverpool and Merthyr (Stafford, SO).
12.20	10.50	Holyhead, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Birmingham, Coventry.
11.15 / 11.30	11.30	Glasgow.
11.30 / 11.45 / 12. 5	11.45	Blackburn, Carlisle, Manchester, Liverpool.

SO Saturdays only.
SE Saturdays excepted.

Particulars of altered routes in connection with traffic for various English towns are being prepared, and will be published as soon as possible; but until such publication this company will carry traffic as hitherto to all the places enumerated above.

As regards Scotland, the arrangement is that traffic from London will be forwarded by routes shown below :—

(1) East Coast route to and from London (King's Cross) :—All traffic to and from Edinburgh, Falkirk, Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Fort William, and Mallaig district; Alloa, Dalmeny, Rosyth, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, and stations in Fifeshire, Dundee, Arbroath, Montrose, Aberdeen, and stations on Great North of Scotland Railway.

(2) By Midland route to and from London (St. Pancras) :—All traffic to and from Hawick, Kelso, Jedburgh, St. Boswells, Melrose, Galashiels, Selkirk, Peebles, Duns, and all intermediate stations on North British Railway (Waverley route); also Annan, Dumfries, Kilmarnock, Irvine, Kilwinning, Stevenston, Saltcoats, Ardrossan, Beith, Beith, Barrhead, and stations on Glasgow and South Western Railway.

(3) By West Coast route to and from London (Euston) :—All traffic to and from Stranraer (for Ireland), Stirling, Perth, Forfar, Blairgowrie, Alyth, Brechin, Lanark, Oban, and all stations on the Highland Railway.

(4) Traffic between London and Glasgow will be conveyed both by the West Coast route to and from London (Euston) and the Midland route to and from London (St. Pancras).

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Fllowing are the revised times for Sundays and weekdays arranged by the Great Western :—

To Bristol, week-days. Paddington, depart 5.30 a.m., 7.30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 11.45 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 6.30 p.m., 9.5/ p.m., 12 midnight.

To Bristol, Sundays.—Paddington, depart, 12.30 a.m., 9.20 a.m., 12.50 p.m., 4.15 p.m., 9.50 p.m.

To Devon and Cornwall, week-days.—Paddington, depart, 12 midnight (Monday mornings excepted), 5.30 a.m., 7.30 a.m., 10.15 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 6.30 p.m., 9.50 p.m.

To Devon and Cornwall, Sundays.—Paddington, depart, 12.30 a.m., 9.20 a.m., 2.45 p.m., 4.15 p.m., 9.50 p.m.

To Newport and South Wales, week days.—Paddington, depart 1 a.m. (Monday mornings excepted), 5.30 a.m., 9 a.m., 11.30 a.m., 3.35 p.m., 4.30 p.m., 6 p.m., 9.15 p.m.

To Newport and South Wales, Sundays.—Paddington, depart 1 a.m., 12.30 p.m., 4.15 p.m., 2.25 p.m., 9.15 p.m

To Gloucester and Cheltenham, week days.—Paddington, depart, 1 a.m. (Monday mornings excepted), 5.30 a.m., 7.30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10.50 a.m., 11.45 a.m., 3.15 p.m., 6 p.m., 9.15 p.m.

To Gloucester and Cheltenham, Sundays.—Paddington, depart, 1 a.m., 11.45 a.m., 2.25 p.m., 4 p.m. (via Honeybourne), 9.15 p.m. (to Gloucester only).

To Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Birkenhead, week-days.—Paddington, depart, 12.17 a.m. (Monday mornings excepted), 6.30 a.m., 9.50 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4.55 p.m., 7.30 p.m. (to Shrewsbury only).

To Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Birkenhead, Sundays.—Paddington, depart, 12.17 a.m., 10.20 a.m., 11.10 a.m., 4 p.m. (to Shrewsbury only).

To Reading and Oxford, week days.—Paddington, depart, 5.30 a.m., 6.30 a.m., 7.30 a.m., 9 a.m., 9.50 a.m., 10.50 a.m. (Reading only), 11.45 a.m., 1 p.m. (Reading only), 1.40 p.m., 2.32 p.m., 3.18 p.m., 4.55 p.m. (Oxford only), 5.5 p.m., 6.50 p.m., 7.30 p.m. (Oxford only), 9.15 p.m. (Reading only), 9.50 p.m., 12.17 a.m.

To Reading and Oxford, Sundays.—Paddington, depart, 12.17 a.m., 1 a.m. (Reading only), 9.20 a.m., 10.20 a.m., 11.45 a.m., 2.25 p.m., 4 p.m., 4.55 p.m., 7.20 p.m., 9.50 p.m.

Many of the trains are running at the old times, but some have been started a little earlier, or the journey has been lengthened to some extent.

"CINDERELLA" AT GOLDERS GREEN.

After a very successful debut at Richmond last week, "Cinderella," presented by Messrs. Stephenson and Norris, is this week attracting large and appreciative audiences at the Golders Green Hippodrome. The old fairy story of our childhood days is so familiar that little purpose would be served in describing how the little kitchen drudge eventually attains royal rank and distinction. All that it is necessary to say is that the old familiar theme, while being skilfully preserved, is interwoven with much modern wit and humour, which invests it with a freshness delightful to experience. Messrs. Stephenson and Norris have certainly left no stone unturned in their efforts to turn out a really seasonable and entertaining show, replete with excellent music interpreted under the able direction of Mr. Bernard Jellen, and well equipped with good singing, sprightly dancing, and admirable comedy business from start to finish. In the hands of such a competent company of artistes any of the familiar nursery tales would go equally well, and Messrs. Stephenson and Norris have certainly got together a galaxy of talent it would be difficult to improve upon. First of all, there is Miss Vivien Carter as winsome Cinderella, who, in addition to personal attractions, boasts a voice of sweet tone and far-reaching compass which was heard to distinct advantage in "Come to My Garden of Roses" and "My Hero," the latter being borrowed from the famous "Chocolate Soldier" selection. Another lady member of the cast of whom special mention must be made is Miss Lily Desmond, who takes the character of Prince Brilliant. Of adequate physique, she looks every inch the part, and upon her devolves not a little of the vocal work, including the now very popular ballad, "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty," in the chorus of which the audiences on Monday evening entered most vociferously. An attractive little musical tit-bit, in which Cinderella and Prince Brilliant join forces, is "Fancy You Fancying Me." As Dandini, the Prince's valet, Miss Joan Freyle adopts male attire and manners with easy grace and charm, while in the difficult part of one of the ugly sisters Miss Mary Sirron displays considerable versatility. The giant's share of the comic business falls to Mr. C. A. Stephenson, whose quaint expressions and droll sayings keep the audience in roars of laughter. One of the most noteworthy features of the show is the complete absence of "chestnuts," much of the wit being of a very high order and immune altogether from vulgarity. In the forest glade scene a search is made for cocoa round the trunks of old oaks, the explanation being that the best cocoa to be had is Rowntrees, a play on words which quickly appealed to the humorous instincts of the audience. As the other ugly sister, Mr. Maxwell Cody sings a parody on "I Want to Go Back to the Farm," and Mr. Arthur Hirst adds to the comical element as the bold, bad baron. Miss Dollie Lindon as Rosie Romps does not belie the significance conveyed in the title of the part allotted her. Some good dancing is provided by the Empire Troupe and the Clavellis, and altogether Messrs. Stephenson and Norris's production of "Cinderella" is a very praiseworthy effort.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT KINGSTON.

For the first week of his pantomime season, which opened at the Kingston Empire on Monday, Mr. Clarence Sounes has been fortunate in securing Mr. J. Bannister Howard's "Little Red Riding Hood," which commenced its tour on Boxing Day at Southend Hippodrome. It is a bright entertainment, and contains many popular songs, admirable scenery and dresses, and an abundance of mirth. Mr. Fred Bowyer is responsible for the book.

One of the hits of the evening was made by the Misses Bella and Jules Terry as Jack and Jill respectively. These youthful artistes sang and danced in fascinating style. They were well applauded for their singing of "You've Got to Do It" and "Yaaka Hula Hickey Dula." Miss Josie Leyton, as Boy Blue, was an ideal principal boy, and was extremely successful with her rendering of "Come and Meet the Pullman," and "You're My Precious Little Baby," "Oh! You Cuddlesome Girl," and "The Alabama Jubilee" sung with Miss Muffett, and brought the house down with "Take Me Back to Dear Old Blighty" and "Tennessee." Miss Norah Neville represented Miss Muffett, and scored a great success with "Fancy You Fancying Me" and in her duets with Boy Blue. Miss Molly O'Shann, a pretty little girl, was admirably suited for the title-rôle, and was well applauded for her singing of "I Want to be Somebody's Baby."

Mr. Charles Ross, as Mother Hubbard, created roars of laughter. Mr. Harry Benet and Mr. George Asquin were a laughable couple as Johnny and Billy "two bad lads of the village," with several good gags and jokes; and Mr. Bobby Dillon had several opportunities of displaying his humour as Sir Rowland Twist the wicked squire. Mr. Arthur Lawrence, a local favourite, made an ideal Wolf, his deep bass voice being heard to advantage in "The Brigand Bold." Miss Dorothy Fitzgerald made a pretty and bewitching Fairy Sunbeam, and her singing of "Some Night, Some Waltz, Some Girl" was well appreciated. Other popular songs included "The Old Cocks are very Busy Crowing," "There's a Long, Long Trail," and "There's Going to be a Jubilee in the Summertime." A patriotic ending was furnished by a tableau—Grand March of our Allies. The orchestra was very effectively conducted by Mr. Yorke, and Mr. J. H. Gladwin, the popular manager, saw to the comfort of his patrons. The pantomime is being played twice nightly, with matinées to-day, Thursday, and Saturday.

Originally produced at the Court Theatre on March 7, 1893, "The Amazons" will be revived there by Miss Horniman's company on Monday afternoon next. Sir Arthur W. Pinero's farcical romance will be followed at the same matinée by "Where Is He?" a new one-act play, translated from the Welsh by D. T. Davies, a soldier-schoolmaster of Glamorgan. The principal part will be played by Miss Margaret Halstan, of late all too rarely seen in London. Both plays will be produced by Mr. Douglas Gordon. Thus, in accordance with Miss Horniman's policy of constant change of programme, the popular "Hindle Wakes" will be withdrawn on Saturday evening.

THE SKETCH QUESTION AGAIN.

MUSIC HALL MANAGER FINED.

There was an interesting case to music hall proprietors heard by the Peterborough magistrates on Wednesday, when Frederick Wm. Hawkins, Peterborough, was summoned for keeping a certain house of public resort, called The Hippodrome, for the public performance of a stage play, to wit, "Sprouts," without authority or licence from the Lord Chamberlain, the County Council, or from the justices, on December 13.

Mr. E. F. Lever appeared for defendant, and pleaded not guilty.

The Chief Constable stated that these proceedings were taken on a complaint made by Mr. Edwards, the licensee of the Grand Theatre. During last week a stage play was performed at the Hippodrome in which ten persons took part. In the bill it was described as an extra special comedy, and they would see by the Act that a stage play included a comedy, tragedy, and farce. He understood a theatrical licence was refused for the Hippodrome some time ago, and the premises were not fitted for the performance of stage plays. There was no fireproof curtain, and the dressing-room accommodation was quite inadequate. The defence, no doubt, would be that in 1906 an agreement was made between the theatrical and music hall proprietors in London, but whatever agreement was come to there did not apply to Peterborough. That case had been brought for the purpose of getting a ruling whether these performances should be permitted or not. He did not press it, but he certainly thought it ought not to be permitted in the present state of the law.

Sergt. William Covell said on December 13 he went to the last "house" at the Hippodrome. One of the items on the programme was a comedy, entitled "Sprouts." It was a continued farce from beginning to finish.

Mr. Lever said, as the Chief Constable had stated, this case raised a very important issue, and if successful would have the effect of creating something like dismay over a very large area to people connected with the art. He submitted formally that there was no evidence to support a conviction. There could not have been in the mind of the promoters of the Act for the inclusion or exclusion of this modern form of entertainment of which "Sprouts" was an example. A sketch in those days would have meant a pencil drawing. Looking at it from a commonsense point of view, could this trivial little sketch be called a stage play? This prosecution was only reviving a trouble which had been allowed to rest, and only in the Peterborough and in special circumstances, the Bench were asked to give a decision and so raise up the oldhostility and plunge the whole profession into litigation. He asked them to leave it quiescent and to give as a decision of fact that in all the circumstances this was merely a sketch.

After retirement, the Chairman said the magistrates were unanimous in finding as a matter of fact that this was a stage play, and there would be a fine of 20s. and 3s. 6d. costs.

Mr. Lever asked the Bench, in view of the importance of the case, to state a case.

The Chairman: We gave our decision as a matter of fact, and it will be an appeal to Quarter Sessions.

CHRISTMAS TREAT TO WAKEFIELD CHILDREN.

A number of the poorest children in Wakefield were entertained in the large saloon of Unity Hall on Thursday afternoon. Some 500 delighted, expectant, hungry guests, between six and twelve years of age, all cleanly clad, sat down to table. Then the merry clatter and din fell to a pleasant soprano murmur as forty ladies and gentlemen "did the honours" as waiters.

When the Mayor (Cr. E. Stonehouse, J.P.) was introduced by Cr. T. T. P. Sherwood to address the assembly, it was discovered who were the "founders of the feast" so satisfactorily supplied by Mr. C. Hagenbach, under his wife's able supervision. The treat was given by Mrs. Sherwood, the proprietor of the Empire Theatre, and Mr. Randolph Sutton, "principal boy" (Robin Hood) in the "Babes in the Wood" pantomime, produced by Ventom Swift's London Co., the artistes sharing in the luxury of happiness-promoting. The unique occasion was a gratifying success, reminding the public of many efforts by Mrs. Sherwood and her son in the cause of charity. His Worship (who was accompanied by the Mayoress) said he had no doubt by their exuberant applause that they had had a very good time indeed, and they would therefore be pleased to hear that they would have another such treat next spring. In proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Sherwood and Mr. Sutton for their seasonable generosity in providing the repast for such a large party of youthful citizens, he hoped they all appreciated the kindness with true gratitude.

Cheers having been given, Mr. Sutton said the best thanks Mrs. Sherwood and himself could possibly have was the knowledge that so many children from poor homes had had a good feed this Christmastide.

The Great Raymond is back in London, making his reappearance in the metropolis this week at the Walthamstow Palace, after an absence of more than six years. The clever illusionist has now booked a long provincial tour, after which he will again return to London to stage his new big show.

Mr. J. C. Bate, coroner for the West Cheshire district, has held an inquiry at the Victoria Central Hospital, Wallasey, into the cause of the death of James Finegan (or Fione), 49 years of age, a theatrical agent. The evidence showed that since September deceased had suffered with his nerves, and had been attended by Dr. Walker. Previously he had had business troubles, and could not sleep at night. He had a good day on Christmas Day, but on Tuesday was not so well. His wife went out for a walk, leaving him in bed. When she returned she found him lying on the bedroom floor. His throat was cut deeply, and there was a bloodstained razor on the floor. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity."

"AS IRISH AS EVER."

Very pleasing and refreshing entertainment is to be found in this new revue, produced for the first time in London at the Putney Hippodrome on Monday evening. "As Irish As Ever" is a sequel to "Irish and Proud Of It." It has an all-Irish cast, the book is by Wal Pink, the music by Herman Darewski, and the production by the Brothers O'Gorman. The two stars of the revue are Miss Norah O'Gorman and Mr. Joe O'Gorman. With the exception of these two artistes it was impossible to identify any of the other members of the cast, for the programme, unfortunately, only gave a list of their names, and did not include, as it fight well have done, a list of the parts they were respectively playing. The business of the revue is concerned chiefly with the character played by Mr O'Gorman, a certain Patsy, his trip to America, and his futile opposition to the marriage of his charming daughter (Miss O'Connor) to one apparently very eligible young Cassidy. The scenes are Queenstown Harbour, Ellis Island (New York), the village of Ballycahill (the exterior of Patsy's cottage), the Ballycahill Police Court, and back to the village again, and the sound of wedding bells. As Patsy Mr O'Gorman gives a really admirable study of Irish character, and has excellent material to handle. He is the protagonist in many scenes of genuine comedy, and his natural, easy singing and nimble dancing give added pleasure to a very sound performance. In the first scene we witness his departure for New York, in the second we listen to his interview with an immigration officer at Ellis Island, then we see him home again, witness his arrest for salmon poaching, and his prosecution in the police-court, and to wind up with are present at the scene at his home on his daughter's wedding day. Apart from Mr. O'Gorman's own performance, there are many delightful little bits of acting, and the whole show is full of Irish music, Irish sentiment, and Irish humour. Miss O'Gorman gives a delightful performance, and among her numbers are "Beautiful Isle of the Sea," "A Boy with an Irish Name," and "As Irish as Ever." Mr. O'Gorman's songs include "My Old Stone Jar" and "The Lout of Kelly." Good numbers sung by other members of the cast are "Ireland must be Heaven, for My Mother Came From There" (by a lady whom we regret being unable to name), and "Irish Eyes," well sung by the gentleman playing Cassidy. There is a large chorus of Irish colleens, who sing and dance in excellent style. The cast includes the Misses Mary Sweeney, Eileen McEvoy, and Rosie O'Connor, and Messrs. Breffni O'Rorke, Geo. B. Larchet, Andrew McManus, Will Bavin, Martyn Hagan, John J. O'Reilly, Harry O'Donovan, George Doyle, and John Swanton.

Other items in Mr. Walter T. Martin's programme at Putney this week include Windish and May, who give an entertainment of the musical medley type, which includes violin playing and dancing; Doddy Hurl, with amusing songs, one about a bearskin coat; and Miss Daisy Harker, achieving success with the universally popular "Take me back to dear old Blighty."

ACTOR'S DEATH IN AFRICA.

Mr. Charles Cartwright, who recently went to British East Africa with Mr. Leonard Rayne's company, died at Nairobi on Nov. 5, of enteric fever. The sad news has been received with sincere regret amongst the members of the profession in South Africa, where he was well known and admired as a Shakespearean actor, though his abilities were not confined to classic art. During Miss Ethel Irving's South African tour Mr. Cartwright appeared with success with her in "The Ware Case."

AMUSEMENTS IN MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & P., Mr. J. C. Imeson; A. M., Mr. G. Imeson.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company are appearing this week in "The Victim." Miss Violet Carlyle makes a splendid Dolores, whilst Mr. Fred Maxwell excels as Captain Max Krupp. Mr. Fred Edouin takes a prominent part in the play as Captan Jack Meredith.

THE EMPIRE.—The Empire Palace of Varieties, Ltd., Middlesbrough; M. D., Mr. William Bastiman; Mus. D., Mr. A. Wilson. Mr. Albert De Courville's production, "Fun and Beauty," is the attraction here, played by a tip-top company and a fine beauty chorus.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L. & P., Mr. J. C. Imeson; A. M., Mr. J. A. Bentham.—Sparkling with bright and wholesome humour, smart singing, and clever dancing, the pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," has entered upon its second week's run, and promises to outrival the many similar productions in previous years at this popular place of entertainment. The artistes have now settled down in their respective parts, with the result that the whole show goes with a merry swing from beginning to end. The success achieved is largely due to the efforts of Mr. Charles Raymond, the producer.

Boots, The Chemists, 17, Corporation-street.

GLASGOW.

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Waldon.—To meet the New Year holiday rush, Mr. Waldon's pantomime, "Tommy Trotter," is being played twice daily this week. This production has settled down to the usual panto. conditions of the house—large audiences, with jollity and good humour all round. Miss Josie Delaine and Miss Sonia Seal are principal boy and girl, and both make the most of the popular songs of the day. The title part is taken by Mr. Fred Maple, and with Mr. Hugh Webb as Mrs. Trotter, some amusing henpecking takes place; Mr. Jim Bond has a good Scotch part, and in the rôle of Baron, Mr. Scott Leighton does capital work; two local boys, Messrs. Hillier and Haynes, are vastly popular as Stamps and Tramps; while a pleasing second boy and girl are seen in Misses Hilda Manchester and Ruby Reeve.

Boots, The Chemists, 101, 103, 105, Sauchiehall-street.

"The Kiss" was not screened yesterday morning at the Shaftesbury Pavilion, a Paramount Travel film being shown in its place.

The death is announced, in his seventy-third year, of Frank Archer (Frank Bishop Arnold), an actor who appeared with the Bancrofts and other well-known managers. The deceased was also the author of "The Actors' Note Books." The funeral takes place to-morrow (Thursday) at Hambledon Parish Church, Surrey (Witley Station, L.S.W.R.), at 2.30.

AMUSEMENTS IN BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'.—P., The Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. J. P. Graham and John Hart; A. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Mr. B. O. Sorge.—The management again give the pantomime a miss this season, and in place of it we have a Gilbert-Sullivan season, sustained by the full strength of the D'Oyly Carte company. This week opened with "The Gondoliers," but the programme is frequently varied, practically the whole of the famous series being promised. The principals include Misses Elsie McDermid, Nellie Briercliffe, Phyllis Smith, Bertha Lewis, Messrs. Henry A. Lytton, Fred Billington, Dewey Gibson, Frank Wilson, &c.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; A. M., Mr. John Croudace.—That stirring naval drama, "The Coastguard's Daughter," holds habitués of the Bordesley Palace in its grip this week. There is a pleasant thread of romance running through the more grim passages of the play. Among the players who sustain the leading parts are Misses Babs Stuart, Stella Carmichael, and Winifred Felix Pitt (the latter taking the title-rôle with much ability), Messrs. T. Lionel Ellis, J. Percy Beresford, Felix Pitt, W. Southan, &c.

GRAND. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Cecil A. Collins.—A well-varied bill is headed by G. P. Huntley, who appears in that diverting piece of nonsense "Selling a Pup," supported by Eva Kelly and company. Other features include Pierce and Roslyn, in "a whirl of melody"; Pasquali Bros., in their finished equilibristic exploits; Haley's Juveniles; Ford and Truly; Five Whitleys; and Finlay Dunn.

EMPIRE. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. G. E. Williams.—Here we have J. W. Rickaby, with some new songs which sound well on a first acquaintance. Then there is that charming musical ensemble "Symphonia," associated with the name of H. J. Corner. The giddy feats of Paul Gordon on the slack wire provide the audience with thrills as well as laughter. Other items in a good all-round variety programme include the kaleyard humour of Jack Lorimer, the concertina wizardry of Alex. Prince, the acrobatic whimsicalities of the Albert Trio, and the wonderful monkey tricks of "Maximilian the Great."

ASTON HIPPODROME. — P., Aston Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. F. Coward.—The programme is well spiced with seasonable fare. Agda and company present "The Lady of the Future," and another popular feature is the show of the Dandy Mascots. Fred Keeton, Chas. Mildare and others also figure in the bill.

GAIETY.—P., Mr. B. Kennedy; A. M., Mr. W. H. Hebden.—Liberal provision is made for the patrons of this house. There are Captain Fred Woodward's interesting sea lions and seals, and among humans such clever entertainers as Harry Balcon, Lorett's Trio of Dancers, Doris Delmar with her violin, the Oxford Octette, and others.

Boots, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-288, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore-row; and Bull-street.

AMUSEMENTS IN LEEDS.

GRAND. — Pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes."

ROYAL.—Pantomime "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. L. Roache; Mus. D., Mr. S. Ambler.—"High Explosives," presented by F. and H. Reeves, and styled a revusical laughette, is the fare at the Empire. The principals are Robert Reilly, Harry Moxam, and Kitty Emson. The show goes with a rare swing. Other good items on the programme are Irene May, in selections; Talbot O'Farrell, the Irish entertainer; and Ben Albert, the dry old stick.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—M. Andre Charlot is putting on Harry Grattan's revue, "Samples." It is well done by some good folks, amongst whom are George Bass, a real humorist; Elsie Stead, comedienne; Florence Cheverton; the Bros. Curran; Norman Howard; Cyril Blackler; Carmen Turia, Spanish queen of song; and Bell Bros., gymnasts.

CITY VARIETIES.—P., The Palace Theatre Co. (Leeds), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Mellor; Mus. D., Mr. H. Holgate—A good, all-round vaudeville show is attracting good houses. The bill consists of J. W. Darley and company, in "Oliver's Birthday"; W. B. Raby, comedian; Little Irene, vocalist; Tom Franks, ventriloquist; Rene and Eugene, jugglers; Nell Freeman and Kathleen Poole, vocalists; and the 8 Sports, in singing and dancing, &c.

QUEEN'S.—P., The Palace Theatre Co. (Leeds), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Wm. E. Hague.—A very welcome return visit is that of Cecile Barclay and Rupert Lister, in repertoire. These clever players are backed up by a strong company, and are presenting "The Basker," "Her Vow," and "Grit."

Boots, The Chemists, 7, 8, 9, Bond-street; 112-114, Briggate and King Edward-street, Boar-lane.

AMUSEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

All communications for this article should be addressed to Mr. Albert H. Walch, "Floralba," Narong-road, Caulfield, Melbourne.

November 14.—"While the Billy Boils" is the latest Australian creation. The dramatisation of incidents contained in several works by the Australian author, Mr. Henry Lawson, have been nicely knitted together under the above title by Mr. Beaumont Smith. This play (already produced in Sydney with great success) is highly spoken of in the daily Press. A clever company, well "primed up" in the many mannerisms characteristic of the bush blocks showed careful study of each individual role, the result being a distinctively life-like performance that should bear reviving in the future.

The latest addition to playhouses here is the Palace Theatre. Previously used as a picture theatre, this building has been completely reconstructed and brought thoroughly up to date at a cost of £20,000 by the Fuller's Theatres and Vaudeville, Ltd., of which Mr. Ben. J. Fuller is governing director, and Mr. John Fuller, jun., managing director. During the past nine years this firm has expended some £250,000 on structures in New Zealand and Australia, where an already extensive vaudeville and picture business is energetically and successfully being enlarged. The opening performance at the new theatre was given by the Walter Johnson musical vaudeville revue company, specially imported from America. A full house (about 1,700 persons) warmly welcomed the newcomers. This firm, in addition, have a splendid vaudeville bill at the Bijou, while the Princess Theatre, where Mr. Allan Wilkie and Miss Hunter Watts are appearing in Shakespearean plays, is also under their direction.

Mr. Alfred Frith, of the Williamson, musical comedy company, has enlisted for service abroad with the Australian Forces. Mr. Frith came into prominence by his good work in "So Long, Letty," and "Tonight's the Night."

DRURY LANE PRINCIPALS' YARNS.

The principals of Drury Lane pantomime have been telling "Pearson's Weekly" a number of diverting stories.

Miss Florence Smithson has seen and heard much of the war from Tommy Atkins himself.

"Whenever I could spare the time during last pantomime," says Miss Smithson, "I went to sing to the wounded in hospitals. One day, when I'd done my turn, a sister told me there was a man in a ward upstairs too ill to be brought to the concert, who was asking for me. Would I go to see him?

"Of course I went up, and there was a man with wild eyes and a heavily bandaged head, sitting up in bed with his 'treasure bag' clutched in a hand from which three fingers were missing.

"'Thank you for coming up, miss,' he said. 'When I heard you were singing here to-day I felt I *had* to tell you that I owe my life to you—though I've never seen you before, nor have you seen me. It was this way: Over in the trenches the mail had just come in, and I was looking at a picture paper, while there was a bit of a pause on. I came across a picture of you, and I thought to myself, "I'd like to keep that picture for my dug-out." So I got up and moved off a few yards to fetch my knife, and I'd hardly gone when a shell came—whizz!—and blew us all flying. If I'd stayed where I was it would have been "out" for me all right; but your picture saved me; and when they picked me up I'd got that page in my hand. Here it is, miss.'

"And out of his treasure bag he pulled a crumpled, muddy piece of paper, from which my own face looked back at me."

A Ship We Lost.

"Before petrol became so precious," says Mr. Robert Hale, "I used to meet leave trains and special trains at the stations, and drive soldiers and sailors across London.

"It was an exciting business, and one night I found a sailorman in a great state of mind. He wanted to get to a village beyond St. Albans, and his train was so late that he could not get on that night. 'I've got special leave to see my old mother, sir,' he told me. 'She is very ill, and every hour makes a difference.' 'Of course it does,' I answered. 'Jump in; you shall get there to-night, with luck!' And he did!

"Some weeks later, when the Jutland battle was a thing of the past, a letter came to me from a naval hospital, and enclosed with it was a cap ribbon from one of the ships we lost.

"The letter said: 'When you drove me all the way, sir, some weeks ago, I felt sure you must be Mr. Robert Hale. I'd seen you often on the stage. But I couldn't say anything then; I was too worried and miserable. I've just come through the Jutland scrap, and in a little while I hope to be fit for work again. My boat's gone, sir; but I want you to keep this ribbon as a sort of remembrance for the sake of what you did for me that night.'"

She Never Read the Papers.

Miss Madge Titheradge tells the following story concerning a little maid she employed.

One day, while dressing for the theatre, there was an unusually heavy downpour of rain, and Miss Titheradge, peering out of the window at the overflowing gutters, remarked :—

"Why, Lizzie, it is almost like the Flood!"

"The Flood, miss?" queried the girl.

"Yes, the Flood. Noah, you know, and the Ark."

"I never have no time to look at the papers, miss," explained the girl, apologetically.

AMUSEMENTS IN JOHANNESBURG.

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 4. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — P., A. T. T. Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Barlow Coulthard.—The English Comedy Company, including Percy Marmont, Thos. A. Braidon and others, concluded their season on Saturday night with "Too Many Cooks," by Frank Craven. On Wednesday night A. E. Ancon and company, including Mary Malleson, Frank Collier, Harry Parker and others, open with "Romance." The play is eagerly awaited, and will meet with a great reception.

STANDARD.—L., Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Mr. J. Ackland Bischeff, author of a couple of successful South African farces, "Jannie Kortbrock" and "Jannie Kortbrock Married," has leased the theatre for a limited season, and is presenting his plays.

EMPIRE.—P., A. T. T., Ltd.; M., Mr. R. B. Young.—Business at this vaudeville house is always good. The artistes this week include George Ross, entertainer; Mamie Gilbert, in character studies; The Quealeys, The Dugardes, M'lita Dolores, Ben Beyer and Augusta, Mullaney Bros., Tom Armstrong and Mabs Howarth in "Kiddie Doe."

CARLTON.—P., A. T. T., Ltd.; M., Mr. L. H. Bloomfield.—Star film, "The Third Generation," by the London Film Co., produced by Harold Shaw (now principal producer for The African Films Productions, Ltd), and featuring Edna Fingrath (principal actress for the A. F. P., Ltd.), also the fifth episode of "The Exploits of Elaine."

ORPHEUM.—P., A. T. T., Ltd.; M., Mr. Frank Potts. — Star film, Conan Doyle's "The Valley of Fear." Artistes: Rose Lee-Ivy, American comedienne, and Geo. Murphy, talking and juggling act.

M. Ysaye, the famous Belgian violinist, who has been living in London for several months, is confined to his room, suffering from a severe attack of influenza. M. Ysaye should have sailed for New York a week ago, in order to fulfil a contract for a tour extending over four months, during which he is to play in most of the chief American cities, but his departure had to be postponed.

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ABERDEEN.—MRS. MACKENZIE, 56, Castle-street.

BOLTON.—MISS THOMAS, 22, Bath-st.

BRIGHTON.—MRS. POLLARD, 33, Crown-street.

GLASGOW. — MRS. ANDERSON, 64, Buccleuch-street.

LEEDS.—MISS McDONNELL, 9, Carr-place, Claypit-lane.

LIVERPOOL.—MRS. MAY, 24, Canterbury-street, Islington.

LIVERPOOL.—MRS. CLARKE, 22, Elizabeth-street, Pembroke-place.

NORTHAMPTON.—MRS. BROWN, 26, Victoria-gardens.

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ROTHERHAM.—MRS. CLEMENTS (late St. Ann's-road), 163, Eastwood-lane.

SCARBOROUGH.—MRS. HARRISON, 53, Cambridge-street.

SOUTHPORT.—MRS. GADSBY, Marine House, 79A, London-street.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 8, 1917.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for "Flying Colours."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Rosie Reys, Niblo and Doris, Ernest Hastings.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ida Barr, James Fletcher, Pasquali Bros., Will Van Allen, The Keystones.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS
Picture entertainments.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
Rehearsal at 11.30 a.m. for:—
E. C. Matthews and Co.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Carol Nord, Agdar and Co., Harry Bedford.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Phil Ray.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Braine and Reeve, Belle Davis and Co.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Picture entertainments.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
St. Malo and Coombs, Doris Homan, Veda Le Court.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Georgetti, Pierce and Rosslyn.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
W. B. Raby, Two Tomboys.

GRAND, GLASGOW.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Jim Nolan, Stella Stahl, Les Bastiens, Jack Lorimer.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Eugene, Harry McKenzie, Four Kasracs, Four Royal Scotts, Donald and Carson, Ruby Heyl.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
May Starr, Felovis, Fredk. Culpitt, Leach Laquinlan, Jack Sterzelly, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Sugden.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Larrett, Ella Fields, Maro Duo.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harold Baker, Morny Cash.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Takio, Paul Gordon, Haley's Juveniles, Jen Latona.

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Tom Payne and Vera Hilliard, Chas. Hart, The Kratons, Loie Conn, Maximillian the Great.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
(Resident Director, Mr. Richard Thornton).
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for—
Mongadors, S. W. Wyndham.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"To-night's the Night."

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Les Videos, Dave Morris, "Hot and Cold."

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ike and Will Scott's Pantomime "Babes in the Wood."

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

HER MAJESTY'S T., WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fire-proofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (*a*) West End, (*b*) Suburban, (*c*) Large, and (*d*) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (*a*) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (*b*) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager,** and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. FRANK ALLEN, *Managing Director.*
Mr. A. P. DE COURVILLE, *Assistant to Managing Director and Booking Manager for the London Hippodrome.*
Mr. ERNEST WIGHTON, *Booking Manager for the Tour.*
} Can be seen by appointment Only.

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MISS LILLIE LANGTRY.
GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Until further notice.

MISS DAISY JAMES,
Everybody's Favourite.
This week, Holborn Empire.
Coms., 65, Sudbourne-rd., Brixton-hill, S.W. 'Phone, 2115 Brixton.

New Production, "What a Change," by Fred Rome. Special Scenery and Effects, by Francis H. Bull.

JOE ELVIN
This week, LEWISHAM and CAMBERWELL.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS.
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Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

WILKIE BARD.
This week, LONDON COLISEUM.

T. E. DUNVILLE.
London always.
Gulliver's Travels, 4 trips nightly.
Letters, c/o "The Era."
Sole Agent, Mr. Walter Bentley.
Authors note, Price no object for Comedy Songs.

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37, Leathwaite-road, S.W.
'Phone, Battersea 1156.
No vacancies. Peel's Agency.

COOPER MITCHELL,
of the London Coliseum, &c.
Song and Story at the Piano.
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'Phone, Chiswick 1112, and Ashton's Royal Agency.

FRED BARNES,
the Famous Light Comedy Star.
Booked on Starring Engagements until 1924.
This week, HOLBORN.

ERNEST HASTINGS,
in his
Humour and Music
at the Piano.
This HIPPODROME, POPLAR.
Next EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Telephone, Willesden 1134.

F. C. HENNEQUIN.
Author and Character Actor.
This week, PALACE, BURNLEY
Next week, PALLADIUM, SOUTHPORT.
Permanent address, 30, Blandford-road, Bedford Park, London, W.

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ATLAS - VULCANA TROUPE.
Require Jan. 8 and 22, between London and Leeds.
P.A., Gosford Lodge, Fulham.

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"The Monkey and the Maid."
Empire, Smethwick.
Next, Palace, Grimsby.

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Brilliant Soprano Vocalist. P.A., 18, North Pole-road, N. Kensington, London, W. 'Phone, 148 Park.

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CHARLIE BLAKE, Comedian.
Concerts, Socials, Bazaars, &c., attended. 66, Boyer-street, Derby.

DAN DALE, Comedian.
Evening Concerts, Charities, &c., attended; London; finally rejected. 20, Enid-street, Bermondsey, S.E.

"With warmest New Year Greetings to all, and sincerest wishes for Peace and Happiness in 1917."
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Humorous Songs and Stories.
"SARTORIAL SPECIALIST TO THE PROFESSION." Artistes recommended, free of charge, shortest notice, Town or Country, for Concerts, Banquets, &c. 'Phones, Museum 820 and 821, City 2086. 207, Oxford-street, W. (near Oxford-circus).

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Comedy Humorist. Ineligible.
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His Latest Success—
'GOOD-BYE MOTHER, GOOD-BYE DAD.'
The most successful song of the New Year. Screams of laughter, and Chorus sung to the echo.
Written and Composed by "T. L."
Record Hit last week—Collins's, and London, Shoreditch.
Managers should see Leamore's Great Number—
This week: Walham Green 8.10 and 10.20. What a Hit!
Walthamstow and East Ham to follow.
Monday next—Imperial, Canning Town, where "GOOD-BYE MOTHER," will be sung all over the Town. The Chorus of the Season.
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COLISEUM SYNDICATE, Ltd., MIDDLESEX THEATRE OF VARIETIES Ltd., HACKNEY AND SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE PALACES, Ltd., WOOD GREEN EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., MANCHESTER HIPPODROME AND ARDWICK EMPIRE, Ltd., LEICESTER PALACE THEATRE, Ltd., CHISWICK EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., CHATHAM EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, Ltd., ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARADE HIPPODROME, BRISTOL, Ltd.

Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR JANUARY 8, 1917.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Vesta Tilley, Wilkie Bard, Joseph Coyne and Co., Beatie and Babs, Elliott Savonas, Rinaldo, Jean Vallier, Boganny's Comedians, Bioscope.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE, KINGSWAY.
Grand Xmas Pantomime, "Cinderella." Cast includes: Fred Emney, Ella Retford, Tom Foy, Edith Drayson, Brothers Egbert, Hal Bert, &c.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Fun and Beauty."

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Winifred Ward, Laura Novea, The Romps, Shirley and Ransome, Ed. E. Ford, Swanstone and Hammond, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Kenna Brothers, May Hopkins and Co., Four Clovelly Girls, Winnie Denver, Murphy and Mack, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ida Long, Manny and Roberts, Nelson ackson, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Vardell Brothers, Zelda and Freda nsen, Dutch Daly, Trevor and Ware, oscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
"Jack and Jill" Pantomime.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Bonaudo, Cooper Mitchell, Bioscope.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
The Junes, Fred Milner, The Q's, Nellie Wallace, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Lydia and Francis, The McNaughtons, George Carnell, Five Jovers, Duncan and Godfrey, Wilfred Burnand, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
"The Hula Girl."

FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.
"The Bing Boys are Here."

NOTE—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and **17** for Foreign Orchestrations. London Coliseum, London Opera House, and Manchester Hippodrome require **20** parts, including 3 first violins, extra 'cello and bass, and extra part for harp if not scored for.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

THE
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS

PROVIDING CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENTS FOR ARTISTES AT THE MOST IMPORTANT VARIETY THEATRES IN THE LONDON AREA.

General Administrative Offices:
25, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, Jan. 8, 1917.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30
Max Darewski,
Harry Tate and Co. in "Fishing,"
Lucille Benstead, Stuart Hine.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
Marie Lloyd.
Braham, Blow and Collins' Co. "Peaches," Bert Coote and Co. in "Telling the Truth," Jock McKay, Frank Armstrong, Hanvarr and Lee. Len Teel,

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Takio and Namba,
Japanese Eccentric Entertainers,
Jenkins Bros.
Terence Byron and Co. in "Wm. 'Enery's Wedding."
The 3 Scamps,
the greatest of all Ragtime Piano acts.
Morton and Bowman, Edgar Curtis, John Deering, Bioscope, Canadian Choir.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Jake Friedman and Co. in "The Dutch Hussars,"
Harry Champion, Three Scamps, Shogun and Ryder, Bernard, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Marie Lloyd, Hudson and Kirkby, The Courtiers, Geo. D'Albert, Athas and Collins, McIvor and Scott, Florence Rattray, Bell Bros., Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Joe Collins presents Grand Christmas Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
L. Ephraim presents "High Life in Jail," F. Ginnett's War Horse, Geo. D'Albert, Reg. Faze and Assistant, Maisie Rowlands, Daphne Wynne in "Neutr-Allie-Ty," Fred Hunt, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Herbert Crump's Grand Christmas Pantomime, "Cinderella."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Harry Burns' Grand Comic Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

BRIXTON EMPRESS.
Rehearsal at 12.
Max Darewski, Hudson and Kirkby, Five Whiteleys, Dolly Elsworthy, Dorothy Storm, Arthur Stroud, Bioscope, etc.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Sid Cotterill and Co. in "The Substitute," Helm and Cozens, Godfrey Parisa, Ada Cerito Waltina, Mabel Adeane, Fred Sinclair and Partner, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

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WEEK COMMENCING 8TH JANUARY, 1917

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6.10 and 9.
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FARR & FARLAND
MAY MOORE DUPREZ
TOM STUART
PAGE'S DOLLS
BERT HARROW
MAY LEVEY
SPESSELL BROS. & MACK

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30.

PALLADIUM
6.10 9.0

BRANSBY WILLIAMS — R. G. KNOWLES
GEO. MOZART — ELLA SHIELDS
VERNON WATSON — TWO BOBS — MAIDIE SCOTT
HARMONY FOUR — MAY HENDERSON
FIVE DORINOS — COSTA & GEO

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"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT."
DAILY at 2.15 (afternoons only).
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6.30 and 9.
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FARR & FARLAND
MAY MOORE DUPREZ
FRED BARNES
CLAUDE GOLDEN
MARIE DAINTON
DUSTY RHODES
MANNY & ROBERTS
CAMPBELL & SCOTT
JACKSON CHARLES TRIO
and
LAWRENCE WRIGHT'S MUSICAL ENSEMBLE

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
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CHAS. AUSTIN & CO. in "PARKER ON THE PANEL."

VERNON WATSON
GEO. GILBEY
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HAMMERSMITH PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HAMMERSMITH 106.

GERTIE GITANA
SAM MAYO
MAY HENDERSON
GOODFELLOW & GREGSON
DUSTY RHODES
WELLS & MAYBAN
VICTOR & GEORGE
PAUL ROEY
and
WOODWARD'S SEALS

CAMBERWELL PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HOP 1095.

OSWALD WILLIAMS
WHIT CUNLIFFE
HILDA GLYDER
LOTTIE LENNOX
JOHN DONALD
LES TUMILET
CASSIE WALMER
CHEVALIER & RIEGO
EDDY MARTIN
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GRAND PALACE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION
6.30 and 9.
Tel. BATTERSEA 88.

BRANSBY WILLIAMS
CHAS. WHITTLE
MAY SHERRARD
CASSIE WALMER
FOUR KEMPTONS
G. F. FORD
WEST & CO.
and
JOE ELVIN & CO.

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH
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Tel. LONDON WALL 1628.

MAIDIE SCOTT
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HELEN MORAY
CASSIE WALMER
FRANK LEO & SABLE FERN
HARRY BROWN
MAY SHERRARD
HARRY ROGERS & Co

ILFORD HIPPODROME
6.30 and 8.50,
Tel. ILFORD 716.

FAIRY PANTOMIME,
"MOTHER GOOSE."
featuring
RENE RALPH
JIMMY HOOPER
SIDNEY RUSSELL
HAIDEE DE RANCE
MIGNON ELISE
EDDY FOY
MARJORY STEVENS

MATINEES THURSDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. WOOLWICH 69.

VICTORIA MONKS
JACK BIRCHLEY
MAURICE
GEO. GILBEY
SYD. MOOROUSE
EVELYN TAYLOR
HAIG, NOVEL & STOPIT
VASCO
DODDY HURL

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

CROYDON EMPIRE
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. CROYDON 1174.

HARRY DAY'S Revue,
"FROLICS,"
featuring
JOS. ALEXANDRE
ISABEL DILLON
ARTHUR REECE

THORNLEY-DODGE
THORN & LEOPOLD
HILDA NELSON
WEE GEORGIE HARRIS

ISLINGTON EMPIRE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. NORTH 571.

HARRY DAY'S REVUE,
"EYES FRONT,"
featuring
ERNIE MAYNE

POPLAR HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. EAST 64.

"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
featuring
PEGGY WALSH
GEO. COOPER
MOLLIE MILNE
WALTER WADE
PHIL RALLIS TRIO
ALFRED RHODES

MATINEES THURSDAY at 2.30

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
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"GOLDMAN, LTD.,"
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HAROLD MONTAGUE
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6.30 and 9.
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'CINDERELLA.'
featuring
CORA GOFFIN
EARLE & DANILO
MARY WYNNE HULM
NEWHAM & LATIMER
HARRY COOK
EVA MACDONALD
THE HOLSONS

MATINEES WEDNESDAY at 2.30.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. PUTNEY 2002.

HARRY DAY'S REVUE,
"FALL IN,"
featuring
HORACE JONES
LYNDA MARTELL
JOHN DORAN

FRANCIS & ALFRED
THE MORTONS
NELLIE RYAN
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IN
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LILIAN HALLOWES
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"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

CROYDON HIPPODROME
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PRODUCTIONS (CROYDON) & (RICHMOND), Ltd.

MANAGING DIRECTOR Mr. CHARLES GULLIVER TO WHOM ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED.

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